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INDIAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

FOURTH ALL-INDIA LIBRARY  
CONFERENCE

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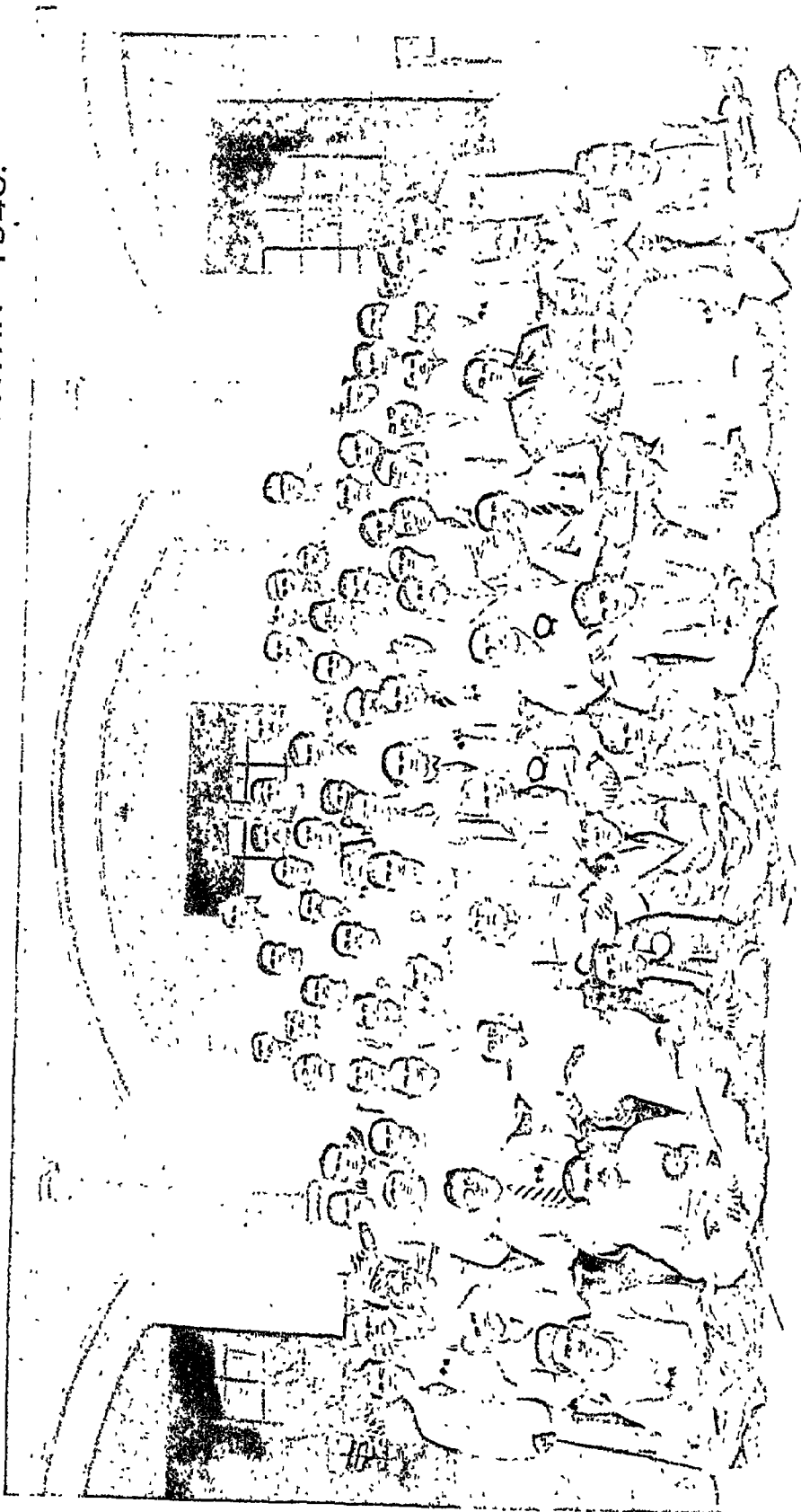
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# THE FOURTH ALL-INDIA LIBRARY CONFERENCE PATNA--1940.



Chairs. L. to R. Mr. Labhu Ram (Punjab University Library); Dr. M. O. Thomas (Madras University Library); Guest, Dr. Syed Mahmud, Ex-minister; Mr. John Sargent, Educational Commissioner & President of the Conference; Khan Bahadur K. M. Asadullah, Hony. Secretary (Imperial Library); Khan Bahadur Mirza Akhtar Husain, Asstt. Registrar & Vice-President, Reception Committee; Mr. Madan Gopal (Legislative Deptt. Library); Mr. Sant Ram Bhatia (Forman Christian College Library), Editor, Modern Library.

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# **The Indian Library Association.**

## **Proceedings of the Fourth All-India Library Conference held at Patna, from the 13th to the 15th April, 1940.**

*Introduction.*—The Third Conference was held in Delhi about the Xmas week of 1937, and it was intended to hold the next one by the end of 1939; but it could not actually be held till the Easter holidays of 1940. Dr. S. Sinha, Bar-at-Law, M. L. A., Vice-Chancellor, University of Patna had at one time promised to invite the Conference to Patna, and the fulfilment of that came mainly through his efforts, and that as stated, in the Easter holidays of 1940. The invitation came from the Bihar Library Association, and although the University did not figure as a host, but there is no gainsaying the fact that but for the part played by the Vice-Chancellor, the Registrar, and the Assistant Registrar, and the financial help rendered by the University, it would not have been possible to hold the Conference in Patna.

*Reception Committee.*—The organisers perhaps rightly did not believe in spending much time in calling meetings, and only three were held in this connection, of which the details are given below. Every one of them was, so to say, a Committee by himself or herself, who worked for the success of the Conference in his or her own way, and made it a success worthy of the name of Patliputra. Before meeting regularly, in order to constitute the Reception Committee, the organisers wisely made it a condition that unless they were assured of sufficient financial help, they would not extend the formal invitation to the Indian Library Association for the convening of the Conference. The University gave the lead by promising a handsome donation of Rs. 400/- which gave the desired impetus, and the organisers thus encouraged met for the first time on the 22nd February, 1940, or less than two months before the actual holding of the Conference, to discuss their plans. The meeting was attended by representatives of various libraries and educational institutions,

besides the members of the Bihar Library Association, which body is affiliated to the Indian Library Association. Dr. S. Sinha presided.

After passing the formal resolution for inviting the Conference, those present formed themselves into a Provisional Committee, the names of the members and office-bearers of which are mentioned in Appendix I(a). The fee for membership of the Reception Committee was fixed to be Rs. 2; and a Working Committee formed to carry on the work.

The Working Committee met on the 12th March, 1940 when besides other matters, it decided to recommend to the Indian Library Association the name of Mr. John Sargent, the Educational Commissioner with the Government of India as the President of the Conference, and the venue of the Conference was settled to be the University Library and the Wheeler Senate Hall of the University. The programme of the Conference was also considered; and it was decided to charge from the delegates coming from outside Patna or Bihar a fee of Rs. 4/- per head. Four Sub-Committees for looking after the reception of guests, their accommodation and taking them round for sight-seeing, arranging for the exhibition, and acting as general information bureau were formed at this meeting. It was also decided to allow prominent booksellers to open stalls in the compound of the University building. Another meeting of the Working Committee was held on the 31st March, 1940 when about forty persons attended with Dr. S. Sinha in the Chair. The Reception Committee was formed and the arrangements made by the Provisional Committee and the work done by them so far was approved, and the Provisional Committee was replaced by the formal Reception Committee with the gentlemen and office-bearers named in Appendix I(b). A new Working Committee was formed with those named in the said appendix, and the office of the Committee was located in the University Library. Other items discussed at this meeting were the issuing of invitations, fixing the programme finally, and organising some social functions on the occasion of the Conference. A decision of consequence to organisers of future Conferences was the admission of members of the University Library

as visitors without payment of any fee. It was also decided to request the Hon'ble Sir Arthur Trevor Harries, Chief Justice of the High Court, Patna, to open the Conference.

*Finances.*—The total amount raised by the Reception Committee to meet the expenses of the Conference was Rs. 972/-, while the total expense came to Rs. 626/- only. The receipts include the handsome donation of Rs. 400/- by the University of Patna, and Rs. 532/- as donations from others, including the fees charged from members of the Reception Committee. The delegates paid Rs. 40/- as fees, as this was charged only from persons coming from outside Bihar, and the members of the Indian Library Association are exempt from payment of this charge.

The thanks of the Conference and the Association are due to all the donors who generously contributed towards the funds of the Conference, which enabled the session being held in Patna.

Out of the balance of Rs. 345/15/6 with the Reception Committee, Rs. 300/- have been paid to the funds of the Indian Library Association, to cover the cost of printing these Proceedings.

A summary of the accounts together with lists of donors and other contributors appears as Appendix II, which will also show the details of both income and expenditure.

*Delegates.*—In all, eighty-three delegates attended the Conference from various parts of the country. This number is the highest recorded so far in the history of the Conference, and the organisers are to be congratulated upon making the Conference so interesting as to attract such a big number of delegates to Patna. All important districts of Bihar, of course, were represented, but provinces like the Punjab, Delhi, the United Provinces, Bengal, Orissa, Madras, Central Provinces and Berar, Bombay, and Indian States like Hyderabad-Deccan and Baroda were also duly represented. In other words, only Sind, Assam and the N. W. F. P. were the provinces that were not represented, but it is hoped that next time those provinces will also take part in the Conference. The names of the delegates appear in Appendix III.



*Arrival of the President-elect.*—The President-elect (Mr. John Sargent, Educational Commissioner with the Government of India) arrived from Calcutta, about ten in the morning of the 12th April when he was given a very warm and enthusiastic reception at the railway station, and garlanded. Several members of the Reception Committee, and of the Indian Library Association, including the Director of Public Instruction, Bihar were present on the platform to welcome the President-elect.

*Papers and Messages.*—The number of papers contributed has somehow or other come to stay, at about twenty every time, for those received for reading before the Patna Conference either from the members of the Indian Library Association or others were nineteen. It was not practicable to read all of them, but about half of them were read which elicited useful and interesting discussion. The discussion is reported very briefly in another part of these Proceedings as due to the absence of a reporter, the discussion could not be recorded in full, as on previous occasions.

As decided by the Council of the Association, select papers are being published as part of these Proceedings, forming Appendix VI. A list of all the papers contributed along with summaries of some of them precede the papers themselves.

The number of messages received both from India and abroad was much larger than that received on the occasion of the Delhi Conference. These appear as Appendix V to these Proceedings. The messages include those from the Vice-Chancellors of Allahabad, Nagpur, Delhi, Bombay, Dacca and the Punjab Universities; the Principals of certain Colleges, educationists, and the Premiers of Bengal and the Punjab; Sir Mirza Ismail, Dewan of Mysore; and Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru; the Library Associations of Bengal and Maharashtra. Proposals received for discussion at the Conference numbered about one dozen.

The Indian Library Association and the All-India Library Conference are both grateful to those who wrote the papers and sent them for being read, which contributed much towards the

success of the Conference. Our thanks are also due to all those who encouraged us by sending their good wishes. Among the messages received from abroad were those from the President, Library Association, London ; and the Director and the Principal Librarian, British Museum.

*Subjects Committee.*—This Committee which included members of the Indian Library Association, representatives of the Reception Committee, and delegates met only once in the evening of the 12th April, to consider the proposals received for being placed before the open session of the Conference. The meeting was presided over by Mr. Labhu Ram and about thirty persons attended.

The Committee considered the various proposals received and approved of eleven of them for being sent to the Council of the Indian Library Association which were to be considered at the open session of the Conference.

The resolution pertained to the abolition of the system of having part-time or honorary librarians ; survey of libraries ; drafting of a model Library Act ; establishment of an Information Bureau ; starting of an organ of the Indian Library Association which all elicited very interesting discussion, as will be found in subsequent pages.

*Visits to Libraries and entertainment.*—Patna contains some old and important libraries, and advantage was taken of the occasion by paying visits to the Patna Museum, Sinha Library, the Oriental Public Library, the Anjuman-i-Taraqqi-i Urdu Library, the Jalan Collection, the Manuk Collection, the University Library, and the Bihar Hitaishi Library. The Jalan Collection and the Manuk Collection as the names imply are private collections of Mss. and curios, and the visits to both these places were as much appreciated, if not more, as to any other Library. This item of the programme of the Conference has always afforded good lessons for the visitors, and everywhere something is to be seen which could easily be adopted by some of the visitors in their own libraries.

Just as the Patna Conference superseded the previous conferences in so many respects, it also scored over them as far as the social side of the event was concerned. The round of parties arranged for the occasion started with the one given by the Chairman of the Reception Committee, Dr. S. Sinha, in the spacious hall of the Sinha Library, in the afternoon of the 12th April. The party was attended apart from the delegates by the elite of the city, and everybody seemed to have enjoyed it in every respect. The second was by Rai Bahadur Radha Krishna Jalan when a visit was paid to his Qila House, where his collection of Mss. and other curios is located. The situation of the place is simply enchanting, as the house is built literally on the bank of the river Ganges, and sitting on the terrace of the house, with the river flowing below afforded an impressive sight. This was in the afternoon of the 13th April. On the following day was to be visited the valuable collection of Mr. P. C. Manuk, Barrister-at-Law, when he was also At Home to the President and members of the Conference. Every one seemed pleased with what he saw and had. On the 15th April, on the occasion of the visits to Hitaishi and Anjuman Libraries, a Garden Party was arranged by Khan Bahadur S. Ibrahim Hossain, President of the Committee of the Anjuman Library, and Rai Mathura Prasad, General Secretary, Bihar Hitaishi Library in the spacious lawn of the last named Library. This was a good ending of an equally good beginning, for after this party, the Conference dispersed.

As usual, a photograph of those attending the Conference was taken which appears as a part of these Proceedings.

**Opening Session.**—The Conference met in the beautiful and commodious hall of the University (the Wheeler Senate House) which had been tastefully decorated, at 9-30 A.M. when about three hundred persons including a number of ladies attended the session. Those present included the delegates, the members of the Reception Committee, the members of the Indian Library Association, prominent persons of the town including Government officers and visitors. The Conference was opened by the Hon'ble Sir Arthur Trevor Harries, Chief Justice of the High Court of

Judicature at Patna, whose inaugural address on the occasion is reproduced as part of Appendix IV. This was followed by the welcome address of Dr. S. Sinha, Vice-Chancellor of the University of Patna, and the Chairman of the Reception Committee, after which the Honorary Secretary of the Indian Library Association (Khan Bahadur K. M. Asadullah) moved that Mr. John Sargent, Educational Commissioner with the Government of India and the President-elect of the Conference be formally elected President of the Conference. This was seconded by Khan Bahadur Ibrahim Hossain and certain other delegates, whereupon Mr. Sargent occupied the Presidential Chair, and delivered his instructive address. These two addresses are also included in the said Appendix.

After this the Honorary Secretary of the Association read a few select messages, out of those received from various sources, wishing the Conference success.

*The Exhibition.*—For the first time in the history of the Conference an exhibition of library requisites, rare books, charts, maps, and Mss. was organised, and the idea proved to be well conceived, having regard to the fact that everybody seemed interested in what had been exhibited, which fact further showed that the idea is going to stick and future Conferences will be accompanied by similar or even better exhibitions.

Among some of the interesting exhibits may be mentioned the Jaina Ramayana exhibited by the Jain Oriental Library; the writings on palm leaves and grains of rice.

Another feature of this Conference was that a pamphlet entitled “Patna and its Libraries” compiled by Professor Biman Behari Majumdar, M.A., F.R.S., Ph.D., of B. B. College, Patna, was distributed free among those attending the Conference, which besides giving a description of the Libraries of the city included a brief history of Patna, and a short account of its places of interest. This is reproduced as Appendix VIII.

Among the various stalls put up may be mentioned that of the Pushtak Bhandar which exhibited its own publications. The stall was visited by several of those attending the Conference who showed an interest in what they saw. The Manager of the Bhandar also entertained the audience with cold drinks during the sittings of the Conference.

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## SECOND SESSION.

13th April, 1940.

### AFTERNOON.

The Second Session of the Conference began at 3 P.M. with the President Mr. John Sargent in the Chair, when the consideration of the resolutions was taken up.

The first three resolutions which dealt with the deaths of H. H. the late Maharaja Sayaji Rao Gaekwar of Baroda, a pioneer of the library movement in India; Mr. M. N. Amin, formerly Assistant Curator of the Library Department of Baroda State; and of Mr. Sarju Prasad, Deputy Librarian of the University Library, Allahabad and a member of the Association were moved from the Chair, and were unanimously carried out, all standing. The resolutions are reproduced below:—

1. Resolved that this Conference places on record its deep sense of sorrow at the sad demise in February 1939, of His Highness the late Maharaja Sayaji Rao Gaekwar of Baroda, a Pioneer of Library movement in India.

2. Resolved that this Conference places on record its deep sense of sorrow at the death in March 1939 of the late Mr. Motibhai N. Amin, formerly Assistant Curator of the Library Department, Baroda State, founder of the District and Travelling Libraries Scheme, Village Library movement and the Baroda State Library Association.

3. Resolved that this Conference places on record its sense of sorrow at the untimely death of Mr. Sarju Prasad, Deputy Librarian of the University Library, Allahabad, who was a member of the Indian Library Association for about the last five years, and who showed zeal and interest in the affairs of the Association.

The fourth resolution as reproduced below, was moved by Sardar Sohan Singh of the Dyal Singh Public Library, Lahore, seconded by Mr. Praphulla Mookerji of Tata Iron & Steel Works and unanimously agreed to. The practice that

still obtained in certain university or other libraries of appointing either Hony. Librarians or of making a member of the teaching staff the librarian I/C of the library was unanimously disapproved, as being prejudicial both to the interests of the profession and the libraries.

4. Resolved that the universities, where part-time or Honorary Librarians are in charge of their libraries be requested through the Inter-University Board to abolish that system and to have whole-time and paid librarians.

The fifth resolution was placed before the Conference by Dr. M. O. Thomas, Dy. Librarian, Madras University Library and seconded by Mr. T. C. Dutta, formerly Secretary of the Bengal Library Association. The resolution underwent certain changes, as a result of the discussion that took place, and in which Messrs. D. Subramaniam of the Benares Hindu University Library; Mr. Labhu Ram, Librarian, Punjab University Library; Mr. Bashir-ud-din, Librarian, Muslim University Library, Aligarh; Dr. P. M. Joshi, Librarian, Bombay University Library took part. Dr. Joshi moved and Mr. Sant Ram Bhatia, Librarian, Forman Christian College Library, Lahore, seconded the amendment to exclude "College and School libraries", which was agreed to. Another amendment was moved by Mr. Labhu Ram, but not being seconded had to be dropped. Still another moved by Mr. Bhatnagar of the Army Head Quarters Library, Simla and seconded by Mr. Tiwari of the Patna University Library was to delete the words "departmental", but that was defeated, due to the contention of the Secretary of the Association, in which he gave the entire history of the proposal. On the motion of Mr. Bishen Singh of the Forest Research Institute, Dehra Dun, which was seconded by Mr. Sohan Singh the word "Central" was added so as to include the Central Government along with the Provincial Governments. A further amendment moved by Dr. Joshi was agreed to so as to include the Indian States also in the appeal that was being made in this resolution. The resolution as it finally emerged from the discussion is given below :

5. Resolved that the Central and Provincial Governments and Indian States be requested to create Departments of Libraries for the establishment, maintenance, and extension of Library service, and to extend facilities to the public for the use of departmental libraries under their control, as far as practicable.

The sixth resolution was placed before the house by Mr. Sant Ram Bhatia, which was duly seconded, and with certain alterations was passed in the form given below :

6. Resolved that the Indian Library Association should open an Information Bureau to collect information on all matters of interest to librarians and to supply such information on request; and all librarians be requested to co-operate with the Bureau by sending any new idea or development in librarianship which they may come across.

The words "at Lahore" and "to members" as appearing in the original resolution were dropped as a result of the motion of Mr. T. C. Dutta, seconded by Mr. S. S. Saith, Superintendent, Reading Rooms of the Imperial Library.

Khan Bahadur Mirza Akhtar Husain, Assistant Registrar, Patna University and Officer in charge of the University Library moved and Mr. H. K. Vyas of Baroda Libraries department seconded the next resolution, which was passed in the form given below :

7. Resolved that a Committee be appointed to explore the possibilities of establishing free public libraries in at least all provincial capitals; and that the Committee be authorised to frame a model Indian Libraries Act to further the cause of the free Public Library movement.

The composition of the Committee to take the necessary action as suggested in their solution was left to the Council of the Indian Library Association, as a result of the amendment moved by Mr. T. C. Dutta.



Resolution No. 8 reproduced below was moved by Mr. Labhu Ram, and seconded by Mr. Y. M. Mulay, Librarian, Nagpur University Library. This was adopted with minor verbal alterations. The consideration of the next one which was moved by Mr. Bashir-ud-din and seconded by Mr. Yusuf-ud-din, Librarian, Osmania University Library was postponed to another sitting as the time was short and the resolution was considered to be somewhat contentious.

8. Resolved that this Conference while appreciating the efforts of the Government of Bihar and of Dr. Syed Mahmud in the cause of Mass Literacy requests the said Government to help the Bihar Library Association and further the cause of library movement in the Province by encouraging the establishment of more libraries for the new literates.

9. Resolved that this Conference requests the Government of Bihar to give due consideration and weight to the Library scheme prepared by the Bihar Library Association and to enforce the same or such part of it as may be practicable, at an early date.

Resolution No. 10 (reproduced below) was moved by Dr. N. Ray, Librarian, Calcutta University Library and seconded by Mr. Muhammad Shafi, Librarian, Imperial Council of Agricultural Research, Government of India. Certain members did not think it to be quite clear, whereupon the President explained the aims and objects of that proposal, after which it was unanimously passed.

10. Resolved that the affiliating universities be requested (through the Inter-University Board) to devote special attention to college libraries during the periodical inspection of colleges, and that a qualified librarian be associated with the inspection, specifically for this purpose.

Resolution No. 11 which is given below was moved by Dr. Joshi, seconded by Mr. Fazal Elahi, Assistant Librarian, Lucknow

University Library, of which the consideration was also postponed as the object of that was not quite clear.

11. Resolved that it is highly desirable on the part of the Indian Library Association to have an organ of its own in the form of a quarterly journal, and that for this purpose they may explore the possibility of taking over the *Modern Librarian* from its present authorities, failing which the Association may proceed with the project.

This concluded the business of the session.

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## THIRD SESSION.

14th April, 1940.

MORNING.

The Conference assembled at eight in the morning under the presidency of Mr. John Sargent, the President of the Conference, when about 70 persons attended. The business began with the reading of a paper by Dr. M. O. Thomas, Deputy Librarian, Madras University Library, which was entitled "Ethics of our Profession". This paper elicited a lively discussion, in which Dr. Joshi, Messrs. Jamil Naqvi, Sant Ram Bhatia, and Dr. N. Ray took part.

Next was taken up the paper contributed by Rao Sahib S. R. Ranganathan, Librarian, Madras University Library, which in his absence was read by Dr. Joshi. The paper was named "The Principle of individuation in Library Science". In fact, this was one of the seven papers contributed by the staff of the Madras University Library all dealing with the application of the principle of "individuation" to various aspects of Librarianship. Dr. Ray raised certain points to be clarified, which the reader of the paper tried to reply as far as he could in the capacity of the mere reader of the paper.

The third paper to be read was that by Sardar Sohan Singh, Librarian, Dyal Singh Public Library, Lahore, which was named "Theory of Reference Tools". The paper did not invoke any discussion.

Next was taken up the paper written by Mr. Sant Ram Bhatia, Librarian, Forman Christian College, Lahore, which was headed "Psychology of the Readers". The President in explaining his own experience while in Manchester agreed with the writer of the paper, in most what he suggested. While Mr. Gopalan, Librarian, Imperial Secretariat Library, Government of India enquired of the facilities afforded for children's libraries, Mr. M. M. Patel of the Central Libraries, Baroda gave a short account of what was being done in that State. In this connection,

Dr. Joshi also narrated the experience gained by him when he visited Croydon, Manchester, and Baroda, etc. Others who took part in the discussion were Dr. Ray, and Mr. T. C. Dutta.

Mr. R. Gopalan, next read his paper entitled "The late G. R. Kaye and the Simla Secretariat Library". This was a brief history of the present Imperial Secretariat Library of the Government of India. The discussion was limited to a few remarks by Khan Bahadur Asadullah, who at one time was in charge of that library.

The sixth paper to be read was by Professor B. B. Mukherjee, Secretary, Provincial Mass Literacy Committee, Bihar, which was called "Village Libraries and Adult Education : A Bihar experiment". The paper brought to light some interesting facts and figures, which gave rise to a long discussion in which Messrs. Vyas, Gopalan, Ray, Ram Labhaya, Rai Mathura Prasad, Dutta, and Mookerji of Santiniketan took part.

This brought the session to a close.

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## FOURTH SESSION.

14th April, 1940.

AFTERNOON.

The Conference met again in the afternoon of the 14th April, when in the absence of the President, Dr. M. O. Thomas, a former President of the Conference and the Indian Library Association was voted to the Chair, and the whole time was devoted to the reading of papers, details of which are given below :

The first to be read was a paper called "Some Problems of Indian Librarianship" written by Mr. Nagaraja Rao, but which due to his absence was read by Mr. Praphulla Mookerji. The Secretary (Khan Bahadur Asadullah) gave a short account of what had been done in this direction by the Association, and there being no other discussion, the paper written by Mr. R. S. Parkhi, Assistant Librarian, Fergusson College, Poona, was read by Mr. Mulay. The title of the paper was "The Role of Indian Libraries in Adult Education". Mr. Dutta, gave an account of the activities of the Bengal Library Association in this direction, while Dr. Joshi narrated the work done by the Committee appointed in this connection in his Province (Bombay), while others who took part in the discussion were Dr. Thomas and Khan Bahadur Asadullah.

Next to be read was the paper by Mr. G. M. Patel, which was done by Mr. Fazal Elahi. The paper did not invoke any discussion.

Mr. V. M. Kolhatkar, Librarian, Sir Parashurambhan College Library, Poona, next read his paper entitled "How we built up our College Library". Drs. Joshi, Ray, and Thomas, Mr. Fazal Elahi and Khan Bahadur Asadullah took part in the discussion that followed the reading of this paper, and which centred round the loss and mutilation of books by readers.

The session after this was closed,

In the evening, Professor Mookerji gave a lecture on "Literacy Mass Campaign in Bihar" with the aid of the magic lantern, which was fairly largely attended and appreciated. The lecture indicated what could be done in other provinces also, for the liquidation of illiteracy.

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**FIFTH SESSION.****15th April, 1940.****MORNING.**

The session started at 9-15 A.M. with the President Mr. John Sargent in the Chair.

The business before the Conference was the consideration of certain resolutions left over from the previous day, and the first to be moved was No. 11, given on page 12 *ante* :

This resolution caused a very lengthy and provoking discussion in which several persons among whom may be named Messrs. Dutta, Sohan Singh, Gopalan, and Sant Ram, besides Drs. Ray and Thomas participated. The resolution was moved by Dr. Thomas and seconded by Mr. Bashir-ud-din. There were several amendments proposed which related either to the question being referred to a Committee, or dropping the reference to the *Modern Librarian*, but the resolution was carried in the form in which it is given above.

The 12th resolution was moved by Mr. T. C. Dutta and seconded by Sardar Sohan Singh. The resolution as passed by the Subjects Committee had to be recast, as a result of the discussion that was held on that, and in view of the fact that in a previous Conference a similar resolution had been passed, and action thereon had been taken by certain Library Associations. The resolution as adopted after all this discussion is given below :

12. Resolved that this Conference recommends to the various Provincial Governments and the Provincial Library Associations the advisability of undertaking a survey of libraries in their respective provinces, or of expediting its completion where it is already in progress; and that the Provincial Governments be further requested to render financial assistance to any Library Association, which undertakes this task, in case the Government itself is not in a position to arrange for the survey.

Resolution No. 18 reproduced below was proposed by Khan Bahadur Mirza Akhtar Husain and seconded by Rai Mathura Prasad. This was adopted without any discussion.

13. Resolved that this Conference impresses upon the Central and Provincial Governments the necessity of providing one library in each province with the apparatus for taking photographic copies of Mss., and of rare and out-of-print books available in libraries and with private individuals, with a view to promoting the cause of learning.

The last or 14th resolution was moved by Mr. Mookerji of Santiniketan and seconded by Rai Mathura Prasad. This was perhaps the most discussed resolution as will appear from the number of persons who spoke for or against it, or who moved amendments, some of which were carried while others were defeated, with the result that the resolution was ultimately passed in the form given below.

14. Resolved that the compilation of lists of books published in various Indian languages which could usefully be translated into any other Indian languages be undertaken, with a view to promoting better understanding between the various provinces of India.

Those who took part in the discussion were :—

Sardar Sohan Singh; Dr. N. Ray; Dr. P. M. Joshi; Mr. T. C. Dutta; Mr. Vyas; Mr. Bashir-ud-din; Mr. Madan Gopal, Librarian Legislative Department, Government of India; Rai Mathura Prasad; Mr. Ram Labhaya, Librarian, Punjab Public Library; and Mr. R. Gopalan. The resolutions are all given in Appendix VII.

As there was some time still available before the session could be closed, a paper entitled "A Survey of Library Associations in India" written by Mr. P. Konda Reddy of the Andhra University Library was read by Mr. Praphulla Mookerji. The discussion that followed was confined only to two persons *viz.*, Khan Bahadur Asadullah and Mr. T. C. Dutta.



After this, the proceedings were brought to a close by the concluding remarks of the President, wherein he thanked all friends in Patna for what they had done in arranging for the Conference and making it the success that it was, and which for him was "a pleasant experience". He especially thanked Dr. S. Sinha, the Chairman of the Reception Committee; Rai Bahadur Radha Krishna Jalan; Mr. P. C. Manuk; the Boy Scouts who helped in various ways; Khan Bahadur Mirza Akhtar Husain; Khan Bahadur Ibrahim Husain, one of the Vice-Presidents; and Rai Mathura Prasad, and Mr. I. N. Sinha, the enthusiastic Secretaries of the Committee for the untiring efforts in organising the Conference and working day and night for that.

Khan Bahadur Mirza Akhtar Husain thanked the delegates and others attending the Conference for coming from various distant places, and thus contributing towards the success of the Conference. Khan Bahadur K. M. Asadullah, the Hony. General Secretary of the Indian Library Association, thanked both the Reception Committee and the President on behalf of the Association for organising and presiding over the Conference. Dr. Joshi moved a vote of thanks to Mr. John Sargent, the President, for the trouble he took in coming over to Patna, and conducting the Conference in the most efficient manner that he did. Mr. Sargent in return thanked the Reception Committee and the audience for the co-operation displayed by them in conducting the Conference and making it a great success.

The afternoon of this day was occupied by the General Meeting of the Indian Library Association, followed by a meeting of the Council of that body, which brought the entire proceedings to a close.

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## APPENDIX I (A)

**List of Members and Office-bearers of the Provisional Committee.:**

1. Dr. S. Sinha—*President*.
2. Khan Bahadur Mirza Akhtar Hosain—*Vice-President*.
3. Mr. I. N. Sinha—*Secretary*.
4. Rai Mathura Prasad
5. Miss L. P. Singh
6. Mrs. C. S. Reza
7. Mr. Jnan Saha
8. Mr. Sharfuddin Ahmad
9. Mr. P. P. Sinha
10. Mr. Ayodhya Prasad
11. Pandit Ganga Prasad Tiwary

} *Members.*

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## APPENDIX I (B)

Lists of Members of the Reception and Working  
Committees, and their Office-bearers.

## (A) OFFICE-BEARERS :

1. *Chairman* :—

Dr. Sachchidananda Sinha, D. Litt., M.L.C., Bar-at-Law,  
Vice-Chancellor, Patna University.

2. *Vice-Chairmen* :—

- (i) Khan Bahadur Haji Syed Ibrahim Hosain, Rais, Terhi  
Ghat, and President, Anjuman-i-Taraqqi-i-Urdu  
Library, Patna City.
- (ii) Professor Bishwa Mohan Kumar Sinha of B. N. College.
- (iii) Khan Bahadur Mirza Akhtar Hosain, Assistant  
Registrar, Patna University and Officer-in-Charge,  
University Library.

3. *Secretaries* :—

- (i) Rai Mathura Prasad Sahib, Rais, Patna City and  
Secretary, Bihar Library Association.
- (ii) Mr. Inderdeo Narayan Sinha, Librarian, Sinha Library,  
Patna.

4. *Treasurer* :—

Mr. Jamuna Prasad, Registrar, Patna University.

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**RAI MATHURA PRASAD.**  
Hony. Secretary, Reception Committee.



Mr. INDRA NARAIN SINHA.  
*Hony. Secretary, Reception Committee.*

## (B) LIST OF MEMBERS OF THE RECEPTION COMMITTEE :

Serial No.	Names.	Designation & Address.
1.	Dr. Sachchidananda Sinha	Vice-Chancellor, Patna University.
2.	B. Radha Krishna Lal ...	Municipal Commissioner.
3.	B. Rajishwar Pd. Mandal ...	S. Bisheshwari Devi Instt.
4.	B. Harinarain Lal Chowdhary	Secretary, Sri Sitaram Pustakalay.
5.	B. Rajindra Pd. ...	Secretary, Shanti Kutir Library, Gulzarbagh.
6.	B. Gokul Prasad ...	Bihar Hitaishi Library.
7.	B. Krishna Pd. Ambasta ...	Do.
8.	B. Janak Kishore ...	President, Bihar Hitaishi Library.
9.	B. Rameshwar Pd. Gupta ...	Jt. Secy. Bihar Hitaishi Library.
10.	B. Kishore Lal Mahtha ...	Member, Bihar Hitaishi Library.
11.	B. Sheonarayan Lal ...	Asst. Secy., Sri Manaranjan Pustakalaya.
12.	Dr. Isvara Datta ...	Professor, Patna College.
13.	Mr. Gupteshwar Nath ...	Do.
14.	Mr. Bishwanath Pd. ...	Do.
15.	Mr. S. K. Sinha ...	Do.
16.	Mr. M. Abu Sayeed ...	Professor, B. N. College.
17.	Mr. A. N. Banerji ...	Librarian, Patna College.
18.	Mr. P. K. Sen ...	Professor, B. N. College.
19.	Dr. Janardan Misra ...	Do.
20.	Mr. Gayatri Upadhya ...	Do.
21.	Mr. B. A. Prasad ...	Training School, Patna.
22.	Mr. P. K. Burman ...	Patna.
23.	Mr. Tamannai ...	Proprietor, Naya Sansar Kitabghar.
24.	Dr. A. Banerji Sastri ...	Professor, Patna College.
25.	Mr. Dharmendra B. Sastri	Do.
26.	Dr. K. K. Datta ...	Do.
27.	Mr. J. Narayan Sarkar ...	Do.

Serial No.	Names.	Designation & Address.
28.	Mr. Syed Hasan Askari	... Professor, Patna College.
29.	Dr. S. C. Sarkar	... Do.
30.	Dr. D. M. Datta	... Do.
31.	Mr. S. A. Jalil	... Library Asstt., Patna Univ.
32.	Mr. D. N. Sen	... Professor, Science College.
33.	Mr. A. S. Khan	... Principal, Science College.
34.	Mr. Kripa Nath Misra	... Professor, Science College.
35.	Mr. S. R. Bose	... Professor, Patna College.
36.	Mr. Thakur Pd.	... Professor, Training College.
37.	Dr. Gyan Chand	... Professor, Patna College.
38.	Mr. S. N. Roy	... Professor, B. N. College.
39.	Dr. Iqbal Hosain	... Professor, Patna College.
40.	Pt. G. P. Tiwari	... Library Asstt., University Library.
41.	Dr. B. B. Mazumdar	... Professor, B. N. College.
42.	Mr. Md. Hosain	... Professor, Science College.
43.	Mr. Ramnandan Chowdhary	Patna.
44.	Mr. Fazlur Rahman	... Professor, Patna College.
45.	Mr. C. T. Mitra	... Professor, B. N. College.
46.	Mr. K. M. Sinha	... Do.
47.	Mr. S. C. Misra	... Do.
48.	Mr. N. K. Basu	... Do.
49.	Mr. Makund Murari Pd.	... Do.
50.	Mr. S. K. Ganguli	... Patna College.
51.	Mr. D. S. Trivedi	... Do.
52.	Mr. Rajnarain Pd.	... P. O. Lalganj, Muzaffarpur.
53.	Pt. K. B. Sharma	... Do.
54.	Mr. Jagannath Pd.	... Do.
55.	B. Surya Pd. Mahajan	... Gaya.
56.	The Manager, Pustak Bhandar, Patna	... Patna.
57.	B. Basudeo Narain	... Municipal Library, Muzaffarpur.
58.	H. Shamsuddin Ahamad	... Professor, Patna College.
59.	Mr. M. A. Mannan	... Do.

Serial No.	Names.	Designation & Address.
60.	Mr. Syed Hassan	... Professor, B. N. College.
61.	Mr. S. Zahir Ahsan	... Professor, Patna College.
62.	Mr. Syed Ali Akhtar	... Jamshedpur.
63.	The Head Master, R. D. Tata School	... Do.
64.	Mr. R. C. Halder	... Professor, B. N. College.
65.	Mr. Md. Qamruddoja	... Professor, Science College.
66.	Mr. T. P. Bhattacharya	... Professor, B. N. College.
67.	Mr. Diwan Chand	... C/o. Messrs. Motilal Banarsi Das, Patna.
68.	Pt. Ram Dahin Misra	... Hindustani Press, Patna.
69.	The Manager, Pustak Bhandar, Patna	... Patna.
70.	Mr. Rajeshwar Pd.	... Hindi Sahitya Agency, Patna.
71.	Mr. Jamuna Pd.	... Registrar, Patna University.
72.	Rai Sahib J. N. Ghosh	... Professor, Training College.
73.	Mr. Rammohan Bose	... The Indian Press, Patna Branch.
74.	Mr. J. L. Hill	... Professor, Patna College.
75.	Captain M. Ismail	... Do.
76.	Mr. S. S. Alam	... Principal, Law College.
77.	Mr. C. C. Sinha	... Professor, Patna College.
78.	Mr. M. Sadiq	... Professor, Bihar College of Engineering.
79.	Mr. S. M. Haq	... Principal, B. N. College.
80.	Mr. Md. Salahuddin	... Iqbal Book Depot, Patna.
81.	Rai Sahib Ram Saran Upadhyay	... Head Master, Training School, Patna.
82.	Dr. P. B. Ganguli	... Professor, Science College.
83.	The Hon'ble Mr. Justice S. B. Dhavle.	... High Court, Patna.
84.	Mr. P. P. Sinha	... Maheshwar Library, Patna.
85.	Khan Bahadur Mirza Akhtar Hosain.	Asstt. Registrar, Patna University.
86.	Mr. P. R. Das	... Bar-at-Law, Patna.
87.	Mr. T. R. Spiller	... Principal, Training College.



Serial No.	Names.	Designation & Address.
88.	Mr. Jnan Saha ...	Maheshwar Library, Patna.
89.	The Principal, St. Columba's College.	Hazaribagh.
90.	Miss L. P. Singh ...	Patna.
91.	Mr. Ayodhya Pd. ...	Librarian, Gait Public Library, Patna.
92.	Mrs. S. C. Raza ...	Lady Principal, Bankipore Govt. High School, Patna.
93.	Mr. P. N. Tandon, I.C.S. ...	Asstt. Secy. to Govt. of Bihar.
94.	Rai Mathura Pd. ...	Secretary, Bihar Hitaishi Library.
95.	Rai Bahadur Thakur Ram Dhari Sinha.	
96.	Mr. S. M. Wasi ...	Information Officer, Govt. of Bihar, Patna.
97.	The Principal, T. N. J. College Bhagalpore.	Bhagalpore.
98.	Mr. Jagannath Pd. Shah.	
99.	B. Kunj Bihari Sharma.	
100.	The Principal, Bihar College of Engineering.	Patna.
101.	The Principal, D. J. College	Monghyr.,
102.	Mr. K. Bhujabali Sastri ...	Jain Library, Arrah.
103.	The Secretary, Gram Hitaishi Pustakalay.	
104.	The Principal, Ravenshaw College.	Cuttack.
105.	Mr. Ramdeo Pd. ...	Muzaffarpur.
106.	Rai Bahadur Surya Bhusan Lal.	Head Master, B. N. Collegiate School.
107.	B. Sidheshwar Gupta ...	Head Master, T. K. Ghosh's Academy.
108.	Mr. Narendra Nath Mukerji	
109.	B. Baidyanath Pd. Srivastav	Chitra Gupta Pustakalaya.
110.	Rai Bahadur Akhory Gopi Kishore Lal,	Secretary to Govt. of Bihar.

Serial No.	Names.	Designation & Address.
111.	Rai Sahib Biman Behari Basu	Board of Revenue, Patna.
112.	Dr. Abdul Gafoor ...	Secretary, The Oriental Public Library, Nagra (Saran).
113.	B. Rameshwar Pd. ...	President, Dukhran Pustakalay, P. O. Athri, Muzaffarpur.
114.	B. Lalita Pd. ...	Librarian, Patna Law College.
115.	Khan Bahadur Haji Syed Ibrahim Hosain.	President, Anjuman-i-Taraqqi-i-Urdu Library, Patna City.
116.	Mr. S. Sharfuddin Ahmad ...	Anjuman-i-Taraqqi-i-Urdu Library, Patna City.
117.	Mr. S. Md. Majeed ...	Do.
118.	Librarian, G. B. B. College	Muzaffarpur.
119.	Dr. Tarapada Chowdhury ...	Professor, Patna College.
120.	Mr. M. T. Gulrazani ...	Do.
121.	Mr. D. N. Chatterji ...	Professor, B. N. College.
122.	Mr. B. K. Chowdhury ...	Do.
123.	Mr. S. G. Mukharji ...	Do.
124.	Mr. S. N. Bhattacharya ...	Do.
125.	Mr. S. N. Roy ...	Do.
126.	Mr. Santosh Kumar Ghosh	Professor, Patna College.
127.	Mr. D. Jha.	
128.	Mr. G. N. Bhattacharya ...	Professor, Patna College.
129.	Mr. Nirmalmoy Ghosh ...	Do.
130.	Dr. Hari Chand Sastri ...	Principal, Patna College.
131.	The Secretary, Sanjivani ...	Sarda Pustakalay.
132.	Mr. S. M. Mohsin. ...	
133.	Dr. S. K. Jha. ...	
134.	Mr. S. Gupta ...	T. K. Ghosh Academy.
135.	Mr. Ashwini Kumar Shaw ...	Do.
136.	Pt. Sheo Narayan Mishra ...	Do.
137.	Pt. Saukhi Lal Jha ...	Do.
138.	B. Ganga Pd. Ganguli ...	T. K. Ghosh Academy.

Serial No.	Names.	Designation & Address.
139.	The Secretary, Sri Krishna Pustakalaya.	
140.	The Hony. Secretary, Bihar Theosophical Library, Patna.	
141.	The Secretary, Vadic Hindi Pustakalaya, Nayatola.	
142.	Miss A. W. Sobar	... B. N. Rizvi Training School.
143.	Mr. V. M. Thakore	... Secretary, Provincial Co-operative Bank.
144.	Mr. Syed Jafar Imam	... Bar-at-Law. Patna.
145.	The Principal, G. B. B. College Muzaffarpur.	
146.	The President, The Modern Library, Darbhanga.	
147.	Mr. Inderdeo Narain Sinha	Librarian, Sinha Library.
148.	Mr. S. Ahsan Shere	... Curator, Patna Museum.
149.	The Hon. Mr. Justice S. C. Chatterji.	High Court, Patna.
150.	The Principal, Rajendra College, Chapra.	
151.	The Secretary Kamla Memorial Library, Laheriasarai.	
152.	The Principal, Nalanda College, Bihar Sharif.	
153.	The Head Master, Raj H. E. School, Darbhanga.	
154.	Sir Manmathanath Mukharji	Patna.
155.	Dr. D. N. Mitter	... Patna.
156.	The Hon'ble Mr. Justice S. P. Varma.	High Court, Patna.
157.	The Head Master, Zilla School, Gaya	
158.	Mr. Ushanath Mukherji	... Asstt. Master, Zila School, Hazaribagh.

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## (c) LIST OF MEMBERS OF THE WORKING COMMITTEE :

1. Dr. Sachchidananda Sinha. D. Litt., M.L.C., Bar-at-Law, Vice-Chancellor, Patna University.
  2. Khan Bahadur Haji Syed Ibrahim Hosain, Rais, Terhi Ghat. Patna City.
  3. Professor Bishwa Mohan Kumar Sinha of B. N. College.
  4. Khan Bahadur Mirza Akhtar Hosain, Asstt. Registrar, Patna University.
  5. Rai Mathura Prasad Sahib, Rais, Patna City and Secretary. Bihar Library Association.
  6. Mr. Inderdeo Narayan Sinha, Librarian, Sinha Library, Patna.
  7. Mr. Jamuna Prasad, Registrar, Patna University.
  8. Dr. Biman Bihari Mazumdar, Prof. B. N. College.
  9. Mr. Jnan Saha, Maheshwar Public Library, Patna.
  10. Mr. Ayodhya Prasad, Librarian, Gait Public Library.
  11. Mr. Ganga Prasad Tiwari, Library Asstt., University Library.
  12. Mr. P. P. Sinha, Secretary, Maheshwar Public Library. Mahendru.
  13. Mr. Gokul Prasad, Vakil, Patna City.
  14. Mr. Jagannath Prasad Shah, Bihar Hitaishi Library, Patna City.
  15. Mr. Syed Hassan Askari, Professor, Patna College.
  16. Dr. A. Banerji Sastri, Professor, Patna College.
  17. Dr. Kali Kinkar Dutta, Professor, Patna College.
  18. Mr. A. N. Banerji, Librarian, Patna College.
  19. Miss L. P. Singh.
  20. Miss A. W. Sobar.
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APPENDIX I (C)

**The various Committees and their Members :**

**(a) *Receiving delegates at the Railway Station :—***

1. Mr. Ajodhya Prasad.
2. Mr. S. A. Jalil.

**(b) *Accommodation Committee :—***

1. Dr. S. Sinha.
2. Mr. A. S. Khan.
3. Mr. Md. Hosain.
4. Mr. Kripa Nath Misra.
5. Khan Bahadur M. A. Hosain.

**(c) *Sight-seeing Committee :—***

1. Rai Mathura Prasad.
2. Mr. Ahsan Shere.
3. Mr. Waliuddin Khuda Baksh.
4. Mr. I. N. Sinha.

**(d) *Statistics and general information Committee :—***

1. Dr. B. B. Mazumdar.
2. Pandit Ganga Prasad Tiwari.

**(e) *Exhibition Committee :—***

1. Rai Mathura Prasad.
  2. Mr. K. K. Datta.
  3. Mr. Hasan Askari.
  4. Dr. A. B. Sastri.
  5. Pandit Ganga Prasad Tiwari.
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## APPENDIX II

## (a) List of donors with amounts of donations :

				Rs.	a.	p.
1.	The Patna University	...	...	400	0	0
2.	The Hon'ble Mr. Justice S. B. Dhavle, High Court, Patna	...	...	10	0	0
3.	Mr. P. R. Das, Bar-at-Law, Patna	...	...	10	0	0
4.	Mr. P. N. Tandon, I.C.S., Asstt. Secretary to Govt. of Bihar	...	...	10	0	0
5.	Rai Mathura Prosad, Secretary, Bihar Hitaishi Library	...	...	11	0	0
6.	Mr. S. M. Wasi, Information Officer, Govt. of Bihar, Patna	...	...	10	0	0
7.	Rai Bahadur Akhori Gopi Kishore Lal, Secretary to Govt. of Bihar	...	...	10	0	0
8.	Khan Bahadur Syed Ibrahim Hosain, President, Anjuman-i-Taraqqi-i-Urdu Library, Patna City			50	0	0
9.	Mr. V. M. Thakore, Secretary, Provincial Cooperative Bank	...	...	5	0	0
10.	Mr. Syed Jafar Imam, Bar-at-Law	...	...	11	0	0
11.	The Hon'ble Mr. Justice S. C. Chatterji	...	...	10	0	0
12.	Sir Manmathanath Mukherji, Patna	...	...	15	0	0
13.	Dr. D. N. Mitter, Patna	...	...	10	0	0
14.	The Hon'ble Mr. Justice S. P. Varma	...	...	10	0	0
15.	The Head Master, Gaya Zila School	...	...	10	0	0

(b) Summary of Accounts.

INCOME.		EXPENDITURE.	
	Rs. a. p.		Rs. a. p.
1. University Grant	... 400 0 0	1. Printing	... 146 0 0
2. Donations and fees from the members of the Reception Committee	532 0 0	2. Reception and Entertainment	... 117 2 0
3. Fees from Delegates coming from outside the province	... 40 0 0	3. Exhibition	... 160 13 6
		4. Postage and Telegrams	... 74 7 0
		5. Miscellaneous	... 129 6 0
		6. Contribution to the Indian Library Association towards the printing of the report of the Conference	... 300 0 0
			32
		Total	927 12 6
		Balance	44 3 6
			972 0 0

Prepared by

Basudeva Sinha,  
Assistant to Accountant,  
Patna University.

Examined and found correct.

J. Prosad,  
Treasurer, Reception Committee &  
Registrar, Patna University.

Countersigned

M. A. HOSAIN,  
Vice-President,  
Reception Committee and  
Assistant Registrar, Patna University.

## APPENDIX III.

## List of Delegates to the Conference.

No.	Name.	Designation & Address.
1.	Dr. P. M. Joshi	... Librarian, Bombay University Library, Bombay.
2.	Lala Labhu Ram	... Librarian, Punjab University Library, Lahore.
3.	Mr. R. Gopalan	... Librarian, Imperial Secretariat Library, Government of India, New Delhi.
4.	Mr. Yusufuddin	... Librarian, Osmania University Library, Hyderabad (Deccan).
5.	Mr. S. Bashiruddin	... Librarian, Lytton Library, Muslim University, Aligarh.
6.	Mr. Mohd. Shafi	... Librarian, Imperial Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi.
7.	Dr. M. O. Thomas	... Assistant Librarian, Madras University Library, Triplicane, Madras.
8.	Mr. S. Sohan Singh	... Librarian, Dayal Singh Public Library, Lahore.
9.	Mr. Sant Ram Bhatia	... Librarian, Forman Christian College Library, Lahore.
10.	Mr. V. M. Kolhatkar	... Librarian, Sir Parashurambhan College Library, Poona.
11.	Khan Bahadur K. M. Asadullah.	Librarian, Imperial Library, Calcutta.
12.	Mr. T. C. Datta	... Bengal Library Association, Calcutta.
13.	Mr. D. Subrahmanyam	Asstt. Librarian, Benares Hindu University Library, Benares,



No.	Name.	Designation & Address.
14.	Mr. Madan Gopal	... Librarian, Legislative Department Library, Government of India, New Delhi.
15.	Mr. Fazal Elahi	... Asstt. Librarian, Lucknow University Library, Lucknow.
16.	Sjt. Prabhat Kumar Mukherji.	Librarian, Vishwabharati Library, Santiniketan.
17.	Mr. Y. M. Muley	... Librarian, Nagpur University Library, Nagpur.
18.	Mr. S. Bose	... Vidyasagar College Hostel, 17, Cornwallis Street, Calcutta.
19.	Mr. Ram Labhaya	... Librarian, Punjab Public Library, Lahore.
20.	Mr. C. N. K. Murti	... Librarian, Imperial Veterinary Research Institute, Mukteshwar.
21.	Mr. P. N. Mookerji	... Librarian, Tata Iron & Steel Co., Tatanagar.
22.	Mr. S. Bishan Singh	... Librarian, Forest Research Institute, Dehra Dun.
23.	Mr. Amalananda Ghosh	Asstt. Superintendent, Archæological Survey, Central Circle, Patna. (On behalf of the Archæological Deptt.)
24.	Mr. Jagbandhan Lal Bhatnagar.	Officers' Library, Army Head Quarters, New Delhi.
25.	Mr. Radhika Prasad Sinha.	Secretary, Nagri Pracharini Sabha, Arrah.
26.	Dr. Abdul Ghafoor	... Secretary, Public Library, Nagra, Saran.
27.	Rai Mathura Prasad	... Patna City.
28.	Mr. A. N. Banerji	... Librarian, Patna College, Patna.

No.	Name.	Designation & Address.
29.	Mr. L. S. Sahay	... Maheshwar Library, Mahendru, Patna.
30.	Mr. N. K. Agarwal	... Hilsa, Dist. Patna.
31.	Mr. P. P. Sinha	... Maheshwar Library, Mahendru, Patna.
32.	Nawabzada S. M. Mahdi	M.L.C., Rais and Chairman, Municipal Board, Patna City.
33.	Mr. Bhagwati Kumar Sinha.	Vice-Principal, Law College, Patna.
34.	Mr. Damodar Misra	... Librarian, Ravenshaw College, Cuttack.
35.	Mr. Satchidanand Sinha	Librarian, Patna Training College, Patna.
36.	Mr. Basudeva Narayan	Secretary, Municipal Library, Muzaffarpur.
37.	Mr. Shyam Narain Singh	Rajendra Pustakalaya, Saran.
38.	Khan Bahadur Mirza Akhtar Hosain.	Asstt. Registrar, Patna University. (On behalf of Patna University).
39.	Pandit Ganga Prasad Tiwari.	Library Assistant, Patna University. (On behalf of Patna University).
40.	Mr. Syed Abdul Jalil	... Library Assistant, Patna University. (On behalf of Patna University).
41.	Mr. Rajeshwar Prasad Mandal.	S. Bisheshwari Devi Institution.
42.	Mr. Harinarayan Lal Chowdhury.	Secretary, Sri Sitaram Pustakalaya.
43.	Mr. Rajindra Prasad	... Secretary, Shanti Kutir Library, Gulzarbagh.

No.	Name.	Designation & Address.
44.	Mr. Gokul Prasad ...	Bihar Hitaishi Library, Patna City.
45.	Mr. Krishna Prasad Ambastha.	Bihar Hitaishi Library, Patna City.
46.	Mr. Janak Kishore ...	President, Bihar Hitaishi Library, Patna City.
47.	Mr. Rameshwar Prasad Gupta.	Joint Secretary, Bihar Hitaishi Library, Patna City.
48.	Mr. Kishore Lal Mehta	Member, Bihar Hitaishi Library.
49.	Mr. Sheonarayan Lal ...	Assistant Secretary, Sri Manoranjan Pustakalaya.
50.	Mr. Raj Narain Prasad	P. O. Lalganj, Muzaffarpur.
51.	Mr. Surya Prasad Mahajan	Gaya.
52.	Mr. M. M. Patel ...	Central Library, Baroda.
53.	The Manager Pustak Bhandar.	Patna.
54.	The Hon'ble Mr. Justice S. B. Dhavle.	High Court, Patna.
55.	Mr. P. R. Das ...	Bar-at-Law, Patna.
56.	Mr. P. N. Tandan ...	Asstt. Secretary to the Government of Bihar, Patna.
57.	Mr. S. M. Wasi ...	Information Officer, Government of Bihar, Patna.
58.	Rai Bahadur Akhory Gopi Kishore Lal.	Secretary to Government of Bihar.
59.	Khan Bahadur Syed Ibrahim Hosain.	President, Anjuman-i-Taraqqi-i-Urdu Library, Patna City.
60.	Mr. S. Sharfuddin Ahmad	Anjuman-i-Taraqqi-i-Urdu Library, Patna City.
61.	Mr. S. Md. Majeed ...	Anjuman-i-Taraqqi-i-Urdu Library, Patna City.

No.	Name.	Designation & Address.
62.	The Librarian, G. B. B. College.	Muzaffarpur.
63.	Mr. Rafiuddin Ahmad	Harding Library, New Delhi.
64.	Mr. V. M. Thakur ...	Secretary, Provincial Co-operative Bank.
65.	Mr. Syed Jafar Imam ...	Bar-at-Law.
66.	The Principal, G. B. B. College.	Muzaffarpur.
67.	Mr. Indradeo Narain	Librarian, Sinha Library, Patna. Sinha.
68.	The Hon'ble Mr. Justice S. C. Chatterji.	High Court, Patna.
69.	The Secretary, Kamala Memorial Library.	Laheriasarai.
70.	Sir Manmathanath Mukherji.	Patna.
71.	Dr. D. N. Mitter ...	Patna.
72.	The Hon'ble Mr. Justice S. P. Varma.	High Court, Patna.
73.	The Headmaster ...	Gaya Zila School.
74.	Babu Binayak Kishore Varma.	General Secretary, Indian Club, Samastipur.

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## APPENDIX IV.

### THE ADDRESSES.

(1) INAUGURAL Address delivered by the Hon'ble Sir Arthur Trevor Harries, Chief Justice of the High Court of Judicature at Patna, on the occasion of the Fourth All-India Library Conference held at Patna, from the 13th to the 15th April, 1940.

GENTLEMEN,

May I thank you most sincerely for the honour which you have done me in asking me to inaugurate this Conference. When Dr. Sachchidananda Sinha requested me to do so I accepted but I must say with considerable misgivings. Your choice is, I am afraid, not too happy a one. I have spent the whole of my life in the profession of the law. That has constantly brought me into contact with libraries but only with law libraries and even now I have to spend a considerable part of my time in the midst of rows of legal reports and musty legal tomes. However, since I came to Patna I have been connected with a library other than a legal one. As Chief Justice I have the honour to be the Chairman of the Trustees of the Sinha Library. This has given me some insight into the work of libraries and the needs of the people who frequent our libraries.

We meet to-day in terrible times. The clouds of War have enveloped the whole of the West and who knows when the East may be involved. Aggression is rife and, that might is right, is openly preached and practised. The very foundations of civilisation appear to be shaken and pessimists may well believe that the edifice which has been so slowly and painfully built during the centuries will tumble to the ground at any moment. I, however, am not a pessimist and do not believe that such will happen. I am sure that, phoenix-like, the world will rise again from the ashes of the present conflict. It is well that people dwelling outside the immediate range of this terrible conflict should still pursue learning and the arts of peace. I am convinced that the world

will again return to sanity where learning will again take its honoured place.

In these days of awakening in India there is a tremendous drive against illiteracy and this work deserves our sympathy and utmost endeavour. Remarkable results have been, and are being, obtained and it would appear that the day is not far distant when crores of illiterate people will have become literate. It is difficult to envisage what this will mean to India for the whole attitude of the people will change and no longer will superior townfolk be able to refer to the ignorant and illiterate villager. He will be able to take his due place in society and enjoy to the full the benefits of which he at present knows nothing. Laudable as that work may be the literate must also be remembered. The very object of the literacy campaign would be defeated if the persons made literate were not provided for. It is obvious that there is a greater need for libraries in India than in practically any other country in the world. The vast percentage of the literate population consists of poor and comparatively poor people who can ill afford to provide books for themselves. The student community as a whole is poor and libraries often provide the only means of obtaining books of reference and frequently standard text books. Libraries also are the only means whereby the poor literates can obtain good literature of any kind to improve their minds or to while away their leisure time.

The All-India Library Conference undoubtedly performs a most valuable function and deserves the support of all. We are honoured that its fourth meeting should be held at Patna and may I on behalf of the citizens of this ancient city extend to all a most cordial and warm welcome. May your deliberations be crowned with success. You are doing valuable work and may your zeal and enthusiasm for the work be quickened by this Conference.

This ancient city possesses a number of libraries which you will visit and some of these libraries are storehouses of ancient and priceless manuscripts. It is of such that Francis Bacon

wrote "Libraries which are as the shrines where all the relics of the ancient saints, full of true virtue and that without delusion or imposture are preserved and reposed." I trust that your visits to those shrines of learning will further inspire you in your work.

This city also is fortunate in possessing men who devote much of their valuable time to the welfare of their less fortunate brethren. Dr. Sinha, Chairman of the Reception Committee, is known not only in this province; but throughout India for his enthusiasm for learning and libraries. To him we owe the magnificent Sinha Library which is doing such good work in our midst. He founded it and to-day his assistance and work in connection with it is invaluable.

I shall only mention one other name, my old friend Mr. P. C. Manuk. His collection of ancient manuscripts is priceless and I am glad that an opportunity is being given you to see these valuable and most beautiful documents. His collection is the result of years of work and I am sure it will be of great interest to you all.

You are indeed fortunate in the choice of your President-elect. Mr. John Sargent is the Educational Commissioner with the Government of India. He is a man of great learning and culture and his experience will be invaluable to you in this Conference. His work brings him into the closest touch with the needs of the literate public and I feel sure that much good will result from your discussions under his presidency.

In conclusion may I again thank you most warmly for inviting me here. Much remains to be done and I shall detain you no longer. May every success attend this Conference which I now formally declare open.

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Dr. SACHCHIDANANDA SINHA,  
*D. Litt., M. L. A., Bar-at-Law,*  
*Vice-Chancellor, Patna University.*  
Chairman, Reception Committee,  
4th ALL-INDIA LIBRARY CONFERENCE  
PATNA





## ADDRESS OF WELCOME

*By*

DR. SACHCHIDANANDA SINHA, D.LITT., M.L.A., BAR-AT-LAW;  
*Chairman, Reception Committee; President, Bihar Library  
 Association; Vice-Chancellor, Patna University.*

Ladies and Gentlemen,

The language of genuine pleasure is short. On behalf of the Reception Committee, and also of the Patna University, I offer you a cordial welcome to this fourth session of the All-India Library Conference. It is, indeed, with great gratification that I find myself to-day in the position of according you a welcome to the ancient and historic capital of Bihar. Very lately, in connection with the session of the Ramgarh Congress, this province has been in the limelight. Dr. Rajendra Prasad, as the Chairman of the Reception Committee, devoted much space, in his inaugural address, to recount the ancient glories of Bihar, from the time of Lord Buddha and the organisers of the great Mauryan Empire. In fact, it has long since become a tradition in this country that whenever any All-India meeting is held, the Chairman of the Reception Committee devotes a large part of his address to describe the ancient glories of the province where the session is held. I remember that my esteemed friend, the late Mr. Mazhar-ul-Haque, as the Chairman of the Reception Committee of the Patna session of the Congress of 1912, held the audience spell-bound, for more than an hour, while he described, in rounded periods, the splendour and magnificence of the great Mauryan Empire of Chandra Gupta and Asoka, and also of the later Gupta Empire, both of which had their capital in this very city of Patna.

If I could persuade myself to follow the examples of Mr. Haque and Dr. Rajendra Prasad, I too would perhaps have invited your attention, at some length, to the glories of Bihar and the Beharees in the days of yore, when the greater part of what is now known as the civilized world, was in a state of primitive barbarism. But I forbear from doing so for two reasons: in the

first place the ancient glories of Bihar and the Biharees are now twice-told tales, and may be taken to be familiar to all educated persons. Secondly, because it had occurred to the Reception Committee that it would be more convenient for you if they would place in your hands a pamphlet on the subject, which you might not only keep as a memento of your visit to our city, but which would also give you, in a condensed form, a fairly full and accurate description of ancient, mediaeval and modern Patna, with an account of its libraries and other cultural institutions, some of which you might like to visit before returning home. This pamphlet has been prepared by a distinguished scholar, Dr. Bimanbehari Majumdar, and I would like to convey to him our sense of grateful appreciation for the trouble he has taken in this matter. This pamphlet you are likely to find far more useful, for the object in view, than any oral address I could deliver on the history and glory of Patna.

You will also kindly keep in mind that though this city could justly claim great historic fame, yet modern Patna, as the capital of the province of Bihar, dates only since 1912, when Bihar was separated from Bengal, after an administrative association of no less than a hundred and eighty years (1732-1912) and started its separate career as a province. The amenities of life here are still on a limited scale, and are not so advanced as either in the old presidency towns of Bombay, Calcutta and Madras, or even in such larger metropolitan cities as Delhi and Lucknow, at which two latter places you have held the previous sessions of this Conference. In the circumstances, I feel justified in begging of you to condone our shortcomings in the matter of your comfort and convenience. I can but hope that, making allowance for our difficulties, you may carry back some pleasant and agreeable impressions of your short stay at Patna.

Having discharged my duty of welcoming you, and also apologised for our shortcomings, the next question is not what I should say, but whether I should say anything at all. I am fully aware that the convention, which has come to obtain in our country in regard to the conduct of public meetings, makes it

obligatory on the Chairman of a Reception Committee to deliver as long an address as he can, or as he likes. He may even, without incurring the risk of censure, traverse the very ground, which should be reserved for the President of the gathering. But as a man of strong convictions, I have always deprecated the development of such an objectionable and wasteful practice. In my opinion the duty of the Chairman of a Reception Committee should be strictly limited to accord a welcome to the delegates, and give such information in regard to local organisations and institutions, connected with the work of the conference, as might facilitate their work. Holding this view, I would refuse to launch into a disquisition on libraries in general, or even on what is called the library movement, in particular.

We know that though the library movement is comparatively speaking a recent institution even in western countries, nevertheless, the literature relating to it is already fairly large, and is also readily available, and it will serve no useful purpose were I to attempt to recapitulate the information, accessible on the subject, in well-known books, or in encyclopaedias. But while that is so, there is very little information easily available about libraries in India, or the library movement in this country. Of the text-books on this subject those that are well-known were compiled, some years back, by the late Mr. Newton Mohan Dutt, who was intimately connected with the library movement work in the State of Baroda. I shall, therefore, be happy to receive guidance in this matter, from my colleagues of this Conference, in regard to similar publications dealing with the libraries and the library movement in British Indian provinces, and in other leading Indian States. Mr. Majumdar's pamphlet, to which I have referred, gives in an interesting form, a great deal of useful information about libraries and other cultural institutions in Patna. But I may devote a few minutes to our two great institutions:—the Khuda Bakhsh Oriental Library which is a unique collection of the rarest Arabic and Persian manuscripts not only in Bihar, or in India, but perhaps in the whole civilised world, and the no less interesting and instructive Patna Museum.

I regard it a privilege to refer to both these great institutions because in my younger days, I was associated with the Oriental Library as its acting Secretary, when its great founder (Khan Bahadur Khuda Bukhsh Khan) had left Patna, for some years, to discharge his judicial duties as the Chief Justice of the Hyderabad State. It also fell to my lot, as the Finance Member of Government of Bihar and Orissa, to provide the necessary funds, amounting to about three lakhs, for the construction and organisation of the Patna Museum. There is available about the Library an interesting and informative work called "An Eastern Library," by Mr. V. C. Scott O'Connor, which may be looked into with advantage. But the fact of the matter is that no description, howsoever complete or exhaustive, can furnish an adequate conception of the grandeur and magnificence of this Library, which owes its establishment to the genius of a great Biharee patriot, bibliographer and scholar. I hope all of you, and specially those interested in Muslim literature, will make it a point to visit this institution, and to inspect at least a portion of its magnificent collection. The library is now in the loving charge of a son of the founder, who will be glad to render you any assistance in the course of your inspection of its wonderful treasures.

In regard to collections of modern books, mainly in English, the oldest perhaps is the Patna College library, which was a fairly good collection even when I was a student of the first and second year classes in that college, in the years 1888 and 1889, now more than half of a century back. It has extended and developed since that time, and is now a good collection of books on subjects which are taught in the Arts course of the Patna University. The Patna University Library, with its adjunct of the Bayley Memorial, is a newer institution, since it was established after the foundation of the University in 1917. But though not yet even a quarter of a century old, it is a good collection of books in various branches of learning. I may be permitted to mention also the public library established by me, in 1924, in memory of my wife, which is named after her. It now contains about 20,000 volumes on various branches of knowledge, and is in charge of a duly qualified librarian, Mr. Indradeo Narayan Sinha. As regards the other

libraries at Patna, information will be found about them in Dr. Majumdar's pamphlet which I have already mentioned.

It must be admitted that the library movement is, frankly speaking, yet non-existent in the province of Bihar. Outside Patna the only large and important collection is the library at Darbhanga, owned by the Hon'ble Maharajadhiraja Sir Kameshwar Singh, proprietor of the Darbhanga estate, who is (as befitting his rank and position) a great patron of learning. It would thus appear that we have in Bihar, even now a virgin field, so to say, with considerable scope for the growth and expansion of the library movement. I earnestly hope that this Conference may yield practical results, by suggesting some plan on which it may be possible for public workers, interested in the library movement, in this province, to induce both the Government and the public to carry on their work in this direction, with greater facility and efficiency.

Having dealt with some of the important book collections in the province, I may now usefully engage your attention, for a few minutes, to the subsidiary cultural organisations and collections to be found at Patna. Of these the most important, beyond all doubt, is the Patna Museum, which is housed in the handsomest edifice in this city. It contains a choice and rare collection of our antiquities in the shape of sculptures, terracottas, bronzes, beads and coins—though we have recently had the misfortune of losing a good many of our gold coin collection, due to a theft last year. The museum collections would have been richer, but for the fact that during the many years that Bengal and Bihar were jointly administered, from Calcutta, the antiquities unearthed or discovered in Bihar, in general, and at Patna, in particular, were sent to the Indian Museum, in Calcutta, and in spite of our efforts to get them back we have failed till now in our endeavour. But our Museum collection, even as it is, is truly a wonderful one, and will appeal to students of archaeology and numismatics. The Museum is in charge of Mr. Ahsan Sherer, its capable curator, and he will be but too glad to assist you in inspecting its contents. Two other notable Art collections in this city, are those belonging

to Mr. P. C. Manuk, the distinguished leader of the Patna Bar and the President of the Museum Committee, and Rai Bahadur Radha Krishan Jalan. Both these gentlemen are distinguished connoisseurs of Art, in its various branches, and their collections are well-known throughout the country for the choice and rare things they contain. Both these gentlemen have been good enough to invite you to inspect their collections, and I feel sure that those of you who may do so will derive great pleasure by their visit to these two private Art galleries.

Before concluding my remarks I may refer to the establishment of village libraries, in this province, in connection with the Mass Literacy Campaign, which was inaugurated by our Education Minister, the Hon'ble Dr. Syed Mahmud, who is a great enthusiast for the removal of mass illiteracy. The Government, of which he was a member, and also their successor, have managed to open during the last two years and a half about four thousand village libraries, in Bihar. These libraries have been started particularly in those localities where the mass literacy campaign had made good headway. About sixty per cent of these village libraries are also supplied with weekly journals. The primary aim of these village libraries is to prevent the new literates from relapsing into illiteracy, by the supply of suitable reading matter. For this purpose each village library consists, at present, of a set of one hundred specially-written booklets, which cover a very wide range of subjects, and which are likely to prove of great assistance in promoting adult education. This is all the information which, I think, it is necessary for me to give you about local affairs and matters, in connection with the libraries and library movement in Bihar, in general, and Patna, in particular.

It remains for me to convey to the Hon'ble the Chief Justice our sincere thanks for his having so kindly inaugurated this Conference. I shall now ask you to formally propose and second the name of Mr. John Sargent, your President-designate, than whom you could not have chosen any one better qualified to guide your deliberations, and whose election would be a guarantee for the success of your work.



**MR. JOHN SARGENT**

Educational Commissioner with the Government of India,  
and President of the Conference.





## PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS

*By*

MR. JOHN SARGENT,  
*Educational Commissioner with the Government of India,  
New Delhi.*

I am very grateful to you for having given me the privilege of presiding over this the Fourth All-India Library Conference. The reasons for my gratitude are many but I will only refer to one or two of them. The first is that I am a great lover of books and have always derived much pleasure from the company of those who share a similar enthusiasm. For many years now I have been a collector of books in a small way and I am realising more and more the mistake I made in leaving my books behind when I came out to this country. To be separated from books is like being severed from old and tried friends. I suppose all of us at times have echoed the sentiment—"what lovely things are books", and even if we have lacked the power to express our feelings with the same verbal splendour there have been moments when we have experienced something of Keats' ecstasy when he first looked into Chapman's Homer. I imagine that all of us can look back to some memorable occasion when a book was the means of opening to us a new vista which has since been a source of perennial delight. Although I am afraid the philologists would tell me that the resemblance is accidental rather than radical I like to remind myself that in the Latin language the words for book and those for two others of mankind's greatest gifts—freedom and children—are almost identical. It does not seem to me to matter very much whether the primary concern of our devotion to books was that of the reader or the collector because one attachment will almost in all cases derive from or lead to the other. In these respects books seem to me to have something in common with postage stamps. They may be simply a means for the conveyance of ideas or they may have acquired by the process of time or by some intrinsic merits of their own a value which is sentimental rather than economic.

My second reason for being glad to be here is a more practical one. It would be a great satisfaction to me if I felt that I could in any way further the cause of librarianship in India, above all by raising its status to a higher level. India for many centuries has been the home of learned men and I have been glad to find that even in those new branches of learning which might have been regarded as alien from her traditional culture she is producing outstanding scholars in increasing numbers. At the same time I have noticed with concern that in this case as in others abundant raw materials have not yet been mobilised for the use of community as a whole. Though India is rich in individual scholars she is poor in truly representative societies of learned men. Librarians who are worthy of their high calling seem to me to have an irrefutable claim to be regarded as learned men and it will certainly promote the cause which we all have at heart, if scope of the Indian Library Association and this Conference, which is I suppose its principal public expression and advertisement, can be extended not only to embrace the whole country but also to secure the recognition it deserves from all persons, institutions and associations which are interested in the promotion of knowledge. I will try to suggest later on one or two ways of achieving this object.

My third and probably principal reason in welcoming this opportunity of improving my acquaintance with Indian librarians is the intimate connection which must always exist between the production and collection of books and the service of education, which is my primary concern. No one so far has been successful in satisfactorily defining education or succinctly enunciating its real aims and objects nor is there any substantial measure of agreement as to the methods by which they should be attained. In the early stages of civilisation no doubt the obvious method of education was and even now in the simpler forms of society still is the direct transmission of inherited or acquired knowledge from one person to another. Although we know that they took notes and that these notes subsequently formed the basis of publications it is unlikely that students of the Greek philosophers were unduly burdened with text books. One can hardly conceive

Socrates being interested in royalties and it is fairly obvious from the condition in which many of his works have come down to us that the publication of his lectures and the correction of proofs were matters in which Aristotle took little interest. In our more complicated society, however, it is impossible for any educationist to neglect the use of books for the transmission of knowledge. I cannot remember the precise words and have had no opportunity of refreshing my memory but there is a striking passage in the preface to the Elizabethian translation of *Plutarch's Lives* in which the translator justifies his undertaking, if it needed any justification, on the ground that unless steps were taken to collect and hand on the results of human experience from one generation to another and from one country to another human life would prove too short in most cases for an individual to accumulate the requisite experience through his own unaided efforts. So large a part of human knowledge is derived from the collation of the discoveries of those who have gone before us that as the centuries go on books become more and more important as the medium for this transmission of ideas. Consequently I cannot conceive the possibility of any modern educational institution satisfactorily fulfilling its function unless it is equipped with an adequate supply of the best books.

On the whole I think this fact receives a general recognition in this country, for I have seen many fine libraries in colleges and schools. Before, however, I attempt to indicate even in the roughest outline what in my opinion should be the contents of a school or college library I want to make a plea that books in virtue of the respect which we owe them should be housed as nobly as possible and should themselves enjoy freedom by which I mean that they should be directly accessible to those who desire to use them. It always causes me a certain discomfort to see books confined behind glass or wooden doors though I shall no doubt be reminded of the danger to books in this country from insects and other pests including those two-legged ones whose enthusiasm for literature exceeds respect for the property of others.

I will not attempt in the following remarks to differentiate between large and small or advanced and elementary institutions,

for it remains true in my opinion that every educational institution from the largest university down to the smallest village school should possess a library of its own. Whether this library has a central core supplemented by subject or faculty or class libraries or whether it is concentrated in one place is a matter which must depend on the size of the institution concerned, on local circumstances, administrative convenience and other factors. In the case of a new institution it seems to me necessary that a sufficient grant to enable the essential nucleus of books, particularly of general reference books, to be provided from the start and that should always be regarded as a normal item in the capital cost of the undertaking. Subsequently for new additions and replacements an annual sum which should not vary according to the financial exigencies of the moment should form a regular feature in the annual budget. It is of course quite impossible to lay down any hard and fast rules as to what the amount of this annual grant should be and I can only say as an example and for purposes of comparison that in England for a high school of 500 boys or girls we came to the conclusion that to start the library a special non-recurring grant of £100 should be made for the first five years together with an annual grant at the rate of seven shillings and six pence per pupil. This would cover periodicals as well as books.

So far as urban primary schools are concerned it is possible to reduce the cost of the school library and extend the range of books available as well as to make pupils familiar with the facilities which will be available to them when they leave school by making use of such public libraries as exist and I commend strongly the desirability of securing increased co-operation in this respect between the library authorities concerned. I believe one of my predecessors in his presidential address strongly advocated the formation of special sections in public libraries for young children. In rural areas the problem is naturally more difficult, as it is unlikely that any public libraries will be immediately accessible. Much, however, has been done in other countries and is now I believe being done in parts of India to meet the needs not only of children but also of adults in connection with the mass literacy

and other adult education movements by organising circulating collections of books. I should perhaps make it clear that in this connection also when I speak of books I am including literature of the periodical type, which for adult students in particular has a practical value and appeal, which sometimes tends to be overlooked.

For more advanced students or those requiring expensive or rare books the regional organisation of libraries is the most economic method. Considerable success has been achieved and substantial economies effected in my own country by the regional system of library co-operation which was organised on a national basis a few years ago. Over and above the regional library there must be a central library or libraries which may form the ultimate source of supply where the resources of the regional system are exhausted.

This is a very brief and sketchy outline of the library system the creation of which seems to me to be the essential corollary to the spread of public education. Such a system by itself, however, will not attain its object unless it is administered by persons who appreciate the value and function of books. In this connection I want to stress a point which, I am sure, has been made over and over again at this Conference ; it is that a librarian should not simply regard himself as a kind of literary accountant or a book-keeper in the narrow sense of the term. While a librarian must necessarily possess both the technical knowledge of cataloguing, arrangement, etc., and the administrative qualities which will enable him to control his library with efficiency, he should always regard his primary function as that of a guide, philosopher and friend to those who come in search of his treasures. A librarian must know and love his books as well as catalogue and preserve them. His function is in my opinion so important that it is not unreasonable to insist that his own cultural qualifications should be of the highest standard. I hope that all libraries that can possibly afford it, whether they are maintained by public or private funds, will insist on having as their librarians men who combine a high standard of general education and culture with the mastery of the necessary technique.

As a practical administrator, however, I realise that if the aim of providing every school with a library of its own is to be achieved it is necessary to accept the fact that many school libraries will be in charge of people from whom a full technical training in librarianship cannot be demanded. In these cases, however, this Conference and the Indian Library Association in co-operation with all those who share their views could I think do even more than they are doing at present to provide at any rate an elementary training in librarianship for those who are going to undertake responsibility for the conduct of school libraries. Every primary school and every adult education centre should have some one on its staff who has some knowledge of the functions of a librarian, and those responsible for these educational services should see that some simple training in librarianship is included in any special courses they hold for the training of teachers. In the normal schools and colleges also some instruction in librarianship might well be given. In making this suggestion I certainly do not contemplate that every one who has undergone a few weeks' instruction in the art of keeping and using books should be entitled to regard himself as a member of what I have referred to as a learned profession. Academic distinctions and titles so called are in my opinion too easily obtainable in this country and I should be the last to suggest enlarging the means of access to them.

In my opinion care should be taken to differentiate between the status of fully trained full-time librarians and that of other persons who may include the charge of books as a subsidiary and important part of their general educational duties. Perhaps a degree with a diploma in librarianship could be generally accepted as the hallmark of the former and a certificate that a shorter course has been successfully taken would satisfy the aspiration of the latter.

This is a suggestion which I put forward with some diffidence. There is nothing new about it for one thing and I have lived long enough to view academic distinctions and the strings of letters that

stand for them with a certain amount of suspicion. But Librarianship, if as I hope it is shortly to take its rightful place among the learned professions, cannot afford to ignore these outward symbols which are their accepted designation. Only let us remember that no degree or diploma, however exalted in public estimation or difficult to obtain, will by itself confer those attributes which any one who is worthy to have charge of books ought to possess. "The letter killeth but the spirit giveth life."

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## APPENDIX V.

Messages of good-wishes received from persons in  
India and abroad :

- (1) FROM MR. ARUNDELL ESDAILE, PRESIDENT, LIBRARY  
ASSOCIATION, LONDON—

“Library Association sends greetings and good wishes success Fourth All-India Library Conference. Ancient Indian Literature important part of civilisation of British Empire. Work of spreading culture among Indian people of deep interest to Britain.” (*Cable*).

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- (2) FROM THE DIRECTOR AND PRINCIPAL LIBRARIAN, BRITISH  
MUSEUM, LONDON—

“Regret. unable accept invitation with which organisers All-India Library Conference honour me. Please accept best wishes for success of Conference.” (*Cable*).

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- (3) FROM MR. ARTHUR F. RIDLEY, CHAIRMAN OF COUNCIL, ASSOCIATION OF SPECIAL LIBRARIES, LONDON—

“It is necessary for librarians of every type of library within the community of British nations to keep in mind the vast effect of their work in forwarding the progress and development of democratic life and institutions, working as they do in freedom of thought and action, and untrammelled by the biased and propagandist perversion of knowledge and truth which unhappily is betraying the work of librarians in some other great countries.

In this spirit I count it a deep privilege to send you my warmest wishes for a successful and fruitful Conference.”

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(4) FROM THE HON'BLE KHAN BAHADUR MAJOR SIRDAR SIR  
SIKANDER HYAT KHAN, K.B.E., PREMIER, THE PUNJAB—

"I wish the All-India Library Conference at Patna god-speed. India of the future needs primarily enlightened leadership for which the libraries have a great part to play. I hope and trust that the All-India Library Conference will help in giving a new impetus to the movement for bringing the leading libraries up to date, as well as in democratising the movement for making library facilities available to the masses."

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(5) FROM THE HON'BLE MR. A. K. FAZLUL HUQ, CHIEF MINISTER  
OF BENGAL—

"From the bottom of my heart I send my sincerest congratulations to the organisers of the 4th All-India Library Conference and trust that the deliberations of this Conference will lead to fruitful results in making libraries not merely popular but recognised as one of the most potent sources of imparting instruction on sound and popular lines."

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(6) FROM THE HON'BLE SIR MAURICE GWYER, K.C.B., K.C.S.I.,  
CHIEF JUSTICE OF INDIA AND VICE-CHANCELLOR, DELHI  
UNIVERSITY, DELHI—

"I ventured to say in a Memorandum which I submitted recently to the Government of India that a library ought to be a first charge on the resources of a University, and I am quite sure that in this matter I should find the whole of your Conference in agreement with me.

I hope you will permit me to wish all success to your labours."

(7) FROM PANDIT JAWAHAR LAL NEHRU, ANAND BHAWAN,  
ALLAHABAD—

"I send you my good wishes. The spread of properly appointed (*sic*) libraries in India is essential to our progress and I hope that the labours of your conference will help in this."

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- (8) FROM MR. R. P. MASANI, M.A., VICE-CHANCELLOR OF THE  
UNIVERSITY OF BOMBAY—

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I wish the Conference all success.

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- (9) FROM THE PERSONAL ASSISTANT TO THE VICE-CHANCELLOR OF  
THE UNIVERSITY OF ALLAHABAD—

“I am desired to state that the Vice-Chancellor deeply regrets that his work here will not permit him to leave Allahabad but he wishes the Conference every success.”

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- (10) FROM DR. R. C. MAJUMDAR, VICE-CHANCELLOR OF THE  
UNIVERSITY OF Dacca—

“I wish the Conference all success. The libraries are now the most powerful means for spreading general knowledge among the people. Unfortunately the libraries have not yet been properly organised in this country. and if the Library Conference can evolve improved methods about proper selection of books and their equitable and wide distribution. it will remove a great want of the country. The All-India Library Conference has got an important and responsible duty to perform, and I am sure its annual session would considerably improve the present state of things.”

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- (11) FROM MR. T. J. KEDAR, VICE-CHANCELLOR, NAGPUR  
UNIVERSITY—

“Wish the Conference success.” (*Telegram*).

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- (12) FROM THE PERSONAL ASSISTANT TO THE VICE-CHANCELLOR OF  
THE UNIVERSITY OF THE PUNJAB—

“The Vice-Chancellor regrets his inability to attend the 4th session of the All-India Library Conference at Patna on account

of heavy pressure of work. He considers the libraries to play an important role in the life of the nation and appreciates the work done by the various sessions of the All-India Library Conference in the past. He wishes the 4th session of the All-India Library Conference every success."

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(13) FROM DR. P. C. BASU, VICE-CHANCELLOR OF AGRA UNIVERSITY—

"I wish success to the Library Conference. The habit of reading is rightly spreading all over India both among students and among their elders. This habit requires to be carefully fostered and to some extent, properly directed. For this purpose it is not only necessary that public libraries should grow all over the country but also that they should be well organised and adequately staffed with a view to helping and advising readers. Therefore, in the development of the cultural life of India the Library Conference has a high place and I hope that by such contacts the libraries in India will be more useful to the country."

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(14) FROM AMIN UL MULK SIR MIRZA M. ISMAIL, K.C.I.E., DEWAN OF MYSORE STATE, BANGALORE—

"India is singularly ill-equipped with public libraries and the comparatively few there are can hardly be compared with those in Europe or America either in size or financial resources. When we consider the epoch-making developments that have been, and still are going on in British and American libraries in the form of new buildings, large extensions and modernization of equipment; when we think of the millions that daily throng into public libraries for knowledge and recreation in those countries, we realise how very backward we are in this respect, and how much of the joy of life is missed by our people.

Let us hope that library development will receive more attention in our country and that the day will come when every town of any size will boast of at least one public library, so that

its citizens may enjoy the fruits of the tree of human knowledge which it provides in all liberality. This will be a potent means of fitting our people to be citizens of a growing commonwealth.

I wish the Conference all success in its deliberations."

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(15) FROM DR. S. K. DATTA, PRINCIPAL, FORMAN CHRISTIAN COLLEGE, LAHORE—

"Greatly regret cannot be present send my warmest good wishes for the Conference." (*Telegram*).

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(16) FROM DR. D. R. BHANDARKAR, CHAIRMAN, COUNCIL OF THE INDIAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION—

"Ill health prevents attendance. Sincerely wish complete success Conference." (*Telegram*).

(17) FROM MR. SYED ABDUL AZIZ, BAR-AT-LAW, M.L.A., HYDERABAD, DECCAN.

"The Conference has my best wishes for its success.

Libraries are a great aid to intellectual life and a source of knowledge and pleasure for many who wish to acquire them with ease. The treasures of knowledge which a decent and a properly organised and equipped library contains does not diminish by use as other treasures do.

Bihar possesses numerous libraries many of which are private, but three individuals of Patna deserve to be specially mentioned as public benefactors in the matter of establishing libraries which have valuable collections. The first and foremost was the late Khan Bahadur Khuda Baksh, the second was the late wife of Dr. S. Sinha and the third is Dr. S. Sinha himself who in modern times, has done more than any individual for establishing a reading library.

His Exalted Highness the Nizam of Hyderabad and Berar has extended his generosity far and wide in many directions and even Patna enjoys his patronage by having a substantial contribution towards the maintenance of Oriental Public Library which is unique in India."

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(18) FROM KUMAR MUNINDRA DEB RAI MAHASHAY, PRESIDENT, BENGAL LIBRARY ASSOCIATION—

"I wish the Conference every success and I hope and trust that this will give an impetus to the Library movement in Bihar and I hope to see ere long my Bihari friends more and more library-minded."

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(19) FROM RAO SAHIB S. R. RANGANATHAN, LIBRARIAN, MADRAS UNIVERSITY LIBRARY, AND HON'Y. SECRETARY, MADRAS LIBRARY ASSOCIATION—

"I trust that the Conference will appeal to all the provincial governments to be generous if not active in helping the library cause.

I wish the Conference all success."

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(20) FROM MR. D. W. JOSHI, SECRETARY, MAHARASHTRA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION—

"Sorry unable participation wish success." (*Telegram*).

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## APPENDIX VI.

## PART A.

## LIST OF PAPERS RECEIVED FOR THE CONFERENCE :

- \*1. "Principle of Individuation in Library Science" by Rao Sahib S. R. Ranganathan, *Librarian, Madras University Library and Honorary Secretary, Madras Library Association.*
2. "Principle of Individuation and Reference Service" by Sri C. Sundaram, B.A., *Reference Librarian, Madras University Library.*
3. "Principle of Individuation and Library Statistics" by Sri A. Rajabhupathy, B.A., L.T., *Counter Section, Madras University Library.*
4. "Principle of Individuation and Book Selection" by Sri S. Ramabhadran, B.A., *Reference Assistant, Madras University Library.*
5. "Principle of Individuation and Periodicals" by Sri V. Jagannathan, B.A., *Reference Assistant, Madras University Library.*
6. "Principle of Individuation and Cataloguing" by Sri K. M. Sivaraman, B.A., *Classifier and Head of the Technical Section, Madras University Library.*
7. "Principle of Individuation and Classification" by Rao Sahib S. R. Ranganathan, *Librarian, Madras University Library and Secretary, Madras Library Association.*
- \*8. "Ethics of our Profession" by Dr. M. O. Thomas, *Dy. Librarian, Madras University Library, Madras.*
- \*9. "Village Libraries and Adult Education (A Bihar Experiment)" by Prof. B. B. Mukherjee, M.A., *Secretary, Provincial Mass Literacy Committee, Bihar.*
10. "Librarianship in India" by Mr. G. M. Patil, B.A. (Cert. Library), *Kannada Research Office, Dharwar.*

- \*11. "Indian Libraries and Adult Education" by Mr. R. S. Parkhi, *Assistant Librarian, Fergusson College, Bai Jerbai Wadia Library, Poona. 4.*
- \*12. "The Psychology of the Reader" by Mr. Sant Ram Bhatia, *Librarian, Forman Christian College Library and Editor, Modern Librarian, Lahore.*
- 13. "High Schools' Libraries" by Mr. Raghu Nandan Thakur, *Assistant Master and Librarian, H. E. School, Buzar, Shahabad.*
- \*14. "A Theory of Reference Tools" by Mr. Sohun Singh, *Head Librarian, Dyal Singh Library, Lahore.*
- 15. "Some Problems of Indian Librarianship" by Mr. Nagaraja Rao, *Librarian, Annamalai University Library, Annamalai-nagar.*
- \*16. "A Survey of the Library Associations in India" by Mr. P. Konda Reddy, *Dip. in Librarianship; Andhra University Library, Waltair.*
- \*17. "How we Built up our College Library?" by Mr. V. M. Kolhatkar, *Librarian, Sir Parashurambhan College, Poona.*
- \*18. "The late G. R. Kaye and the Simla Secretariat Library" by R. Gopalan, *Secretariat Library, New Delhi.*
- \*19. "Fundamental Ideas of a University Library" by D. Subrahmanyam, *Assistant Librarian, Hindu University, Benares.*

*Note.*—Papers marked with asterisks, appear in full in these proceedings.

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## APPENDIX VI.

## PART B.

## ABSTRACT OF SOME OF THE PAPERS :

*Note.*—The summaries of papers Nos. 13, 14 and 17 to 19 were not received and so are not published.

## SEVEN PAPERS FORMING THE MADRAS SYMPOSIUM.

1. RAO SAHIB S. R. RANGANATHAN : *Principle of Individuation in Library Science.*

Enunciates the Principle of Individuation and gives an outline of its incidence in different branches of library science. Forms a general introduction to the symposium.

2. MR. C. SUNDARAM : *Principle of Individuation and Reference Service.*

Discusses the relative merits of mass method and individual method in any educational organisation and examines the effect of the Principle of Individuation in library organisation and the day-to-day work with readers from the point of view of reference service.

3. MR. A. RAJABHUPATHY : *Principle of Individuation and Library Statistics.*

Examines the apparent contradiction of statistical methods and the Principle of Individuation and shows the extent to which the collection of statistics should be specialised so as to approach individuation if the annual statistical audit should yield helpful results.

4. MR. S. RAMABHADRAN : *Principle of Individuation and Book Selection.*

After dealing with the main principles that should guide book selection, establishes the theme that the pattern which these principles take and particularly the pattern of financial allocation to different subjects, assume specificity and are thus distinguishing characteristics of a library.

5. MR. V. JAGANNATHAN : *Principle of Individuation and Periodicals.*

Discusses the difficulties experienced by the periodicals section of a large library and shows that they cannot be met unless the individuating particularities of each periodical are fully watched and made to figure in the administrative arrangement.

6. MR. K. M. SIVARAMAN : *Principle of Individuation and Cataloguing.*

Traces the evolution of the Main Entry from the stage of Title Entry to that of Call Number Entry through Author Entry. Shows the part played by Cutter, Dewey and the Canon of Prepotence of Ranganathan in helping forward this evolution.

7. RAO SAHIB S. R. RANGANATHAN : *Principle of Individuation and Classification.*

Having indicated the capacity of the different schemes of classification to satisfy the Principle of Individuation, enunciates as a problem for future research the discovery of a more powerful principle than the ones known so far to reconcile the Principle of Individuation and the urge for shortness of notation.

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## ETHICS OF OUR PROFESSION

*By*

DR. M. O. THOMAS.

Definition of the term ethics—Definition in general and as applied to a profession.

Written and unwritten moral codes—Distinction between them—The former having legal sanction and the latter lacking it.

*Ethics treated in this paper—Ethics of Librarianship.* Written codes not treated because they are common to all professions. Even in the unwritten codes only special peculiarities of our profession are dealt with.

Subject divided into (i) duty to oneself and (ii) duty to others—the traditional way. The second part is sub-divided into (1) duty to one's staff, (2) duty to one's authorities and (3) duty to the public.

(i) Duty to oneself—obeying the dictates of one's conscience in the discharge of one's duties, or doing one's duty with honesty and integrity. Difference between the old-world librarian and the modern librarian. Freedom of the "top man." Its use and abuse.

(ii) (1) Duty to one's staff. Staff usually adequate to the service we are supposed to render. If it is not adequate, should we try to give the maximum service or adjust our service to the staff?

(2) Duty to the authorities. Presentation of real facts about our administration—Examples.

(3) Duty to the public—application of rules. Service without distinction.

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VILLAGE LIBRARIES AND ADULT EDUCATION—  
A BIHAR EXPERIMENT

*By* .

PROFESSOR B. B. MUKHERJEE, M.A.

The Library plays an important part in the campaign which has been started in Bihar and in other Provinces to liquidate the illiteracy of the masses. The acquisition of literacy is but the first step and the real objective is the promotion of adult education in all possible ways so as to develop our village population into useful citizens. The most important problem which faced the promoters of the Mass Literacy Campaign in Bihar was—"how to prevent the new literates from relapsing into illiteracy," hence suitable provision has been made for giving them an adequate supply of suitable literature on subjects which are useful to them in their daily life. As the existing literature was not at all suitable, efforts have been made to write books on a wide range of topics in simple language so as to be intelligible by the new readers. The Government of Bihar has started 4,000 Village Libraries in the Province in those areas where the literacy campaign has made a far headway, and the permanence of the results achieved by the literacy movement depends on the expansion and successful working of these Village Libraries.

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## LIBRARIANSHIP IN INDIA

*By*

MR. G. M. PATIL.

SUMMARY :—In India, where Library Movement is of recent introduction and is in infant stage. Librarianship is only half understood. A librarian is often a misnomer. The educative and administrative function and character of his work is not understood. The academical qualifications, training, and the right type of mental qualities are not recognised as necessary qualities of a Librarian. Sometimes merely scholarship is taken as the proper test of a Librarian ; while at others apt qualifications and professional training are absolutely ignored. Even in cases where people of the right kind have been chosen for librarianship, the libraries are none the better for it. For, the Librarians are allowed no scope and freedom for their initiative. Generally, librarianship is combined with routine work. In point of status as well, he has not sufficiently risen yet. The public recognition given to teachers is still denied to the librarian. Besides, there are such incoherent positions like Honorary Librarian, Professor in charge of library, librarian (*de jure*) merely by designation, and librarian (*de facto*) without that designation. Hence under the present circumstances librarianship presents an irony ; and many a librarian is in a dilemma whether to follow the traditional ways or to strive to improve his work and service according to the new scientific methods. This cannot be achieved unless the library authorities are urged and impressed of the aims of the library and the ways and means of realising them.

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## INDIAN LIBRARIES AND ADULT EDUCATION

*By*

MR. R. S. PARKHI.

The movement for Adult Education is the vital need of India. Educational activities in India are very limited. The literary movement in the different provinces is in its infancy.

The scope of adult education is very wide. It includes activities from the elementary education of the adults to post-graduate education of college graduates.

The four aspects of Adult Education as put forth by the Adult Education Committee of the Government of Bombay are given.

The progress of a nation depends to a large extent on the trend of progress of the adults in it.

Our educational efforts, therefore, must primarily concentrate on the improvement of the intellectual capacity of the adults in our country.

The public library is the heart and co-ordinating centre of adult educational activities. The already existing libraries in India should come forward and support whole-heartedly the library movement.

The Government and the Indian Library Association should take the problem seriously in their hands.

The scheme planned for the organisation of Village Libraries by the Government of Bombay is given.

The Indian Library Association since its foundation has been moving forward speedily.

The percentage of the reading public with that of the existing libraries and books in them is compared.

The cinema and the radio will aid much to give publicity to the library movement.

The trained and experienced librarians will, of course, play a prominent part.

Up-to-date classified and elaborately indexed catalogues of books available in all the vernaculars in India if printed will help much to make the selection of books particularly useful for the different grades of adults. A catalogue of Marathi literature, already prepared by Mr. S. G. Date, is at present in the press.

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## THE PSYCHOLOGY OF THE READER

*By*

MR. SANT RAM BHATIA.

There is a curious phenomenon of the Library World which requires proper understanding before we can proceed with any kind of reforms. This is the general, gentle reader. To understand him is to understand his psychology, to study his behaviour, his attitude towards books, his emotional and sentimental reactions, his avowed indifference towards different kinds of printed matters; we are to move as his values and standards shift, change and disappear. His study, in fact, will afford us a constructive and realistic solution to the problems of the library and the librarian.

**The Child Reader.**—His work, in fact, starts with the child reader and his psychology. A child's mental world is to be entered; his likes and dislikes are to be analysed and examined. We are not to pauperize a child's mind; we are to open it to the lights of the world. The new psychology of childhood banishes for ever the old-fashioned psychology that considered boys and girls as immature or miniature men and women. The needs of the two "publics" with which the library deals, the child and the adult are as separate, distinct and different in their nature as we hold parleys with two races in different worlds. Our failure as adults to realize this need for knowing the requirements of the race, we call children, is responsible for the oblivion into which some of our reformers of school libraries have fallen.

**In a School.**—Thus the librarians' objectives, for instance in a school, are to get children into the library, keep them coming, and once he has them there, to contribute to their well-being in as many ways as possible. He has to use all of the devices he can conjure up to get them in and keep them coming. For that reason, a library is to be attractive, informal and comfortable with upholstered chairs, little sofas, if possible, stools that could be pulled up to the shelves, regular tables and chairs, bright colours in the room, curtains at the windows adding softness,



nice pictures hung below, low shelving installed with space on top for displaying things.

Probably the most obvious work of the librarian is reference work. The children of to-day do think for themselves; they use the library for their own problems. A librarian has to introduce a child to the world of arts, adventures, new, rare things. He has no particular subject-axe to grind. One is as important for him as another.

**Various Methods.**—In a school library, story-telling by a librarian can acquaint children with great literature. Dramatizations are invaluable training to the child. Children should be allowed to design their own book-marks so that their originality is kept. Music and library can very definitely be connected. A stamp club and a library club can be started so that a librarian gets a real chance to know the special interests of children and to encourage their hobbies. A school can start a magazine, through the librarian, to provide a vehicle for the gifted children. A photograph contest can also be useful. Talks from outsiders can also be beneficial.

The new concept of guidance, therefore, will be "to distribute youth as effectively as possible to educational and vocational opportunities, that is, subjects curricular, extra-curricular activities, to higher institutions and vocations, and to help the individual make the optimum adjustment to educational and vocational situations." The compilation of a bibliography of all materials in the school library which relate to the development of the guidance programme is, therefore, to-day an essential though Herculean task.

**The Adolescent.**—If a child-reader requires our immediate attention, an adolescent needs it too. The psychology of the adolescent is as much interesting as that of a child. Adolescence here has more reference to mental development than physical age. His trust gained in childhood changes into mistrust; his powers of control have not progressed as rapidly as either his body or his brain; they are not adequately safeguarded. Every

action now is accompanied by an equal and opposite reaction, and "sudden emancipation, increased freedom from restraint and the realisation of personality" are accompanied by reactions that can constitute a menace. These factors are to be understood by a librarian who is to cater to the needs of adolescents. To attract them to a library requires energy and skill, different methods, a change of outlook and policy. It is the most stimulating work in the library world. The adolescent will enter the section a child and will leave it an adult. That fact alone constitutes the vital reason for specialised care.

**Practical Facilities.**—It is better to employ time and money in providing practical facilities than in surrounding the youngsters with artistic designs. Rubber flooring can be used for them, though the tables, chairs and book-stacks must be of sturdy construction for adolescents are not constituted to tread or handle very carefully. A light oak is very pleasant to view; darker shade is more serviceable; writing desks without ink (or with sunken ink-well) are needed. The chairs should not be too comfortable so as to encourage lounging. Bulletin boards, small tables, staff enclosure, book-stacks, boards for notices and displays, holders for periodicals, catalogue accessories, etc., must be attractive; the planning of the department should occupy the librarian's mind rightly.

Books must appeal to practical minds. Only accurate works should be provided. Books on technical details, fiction, adventures, cultural and recreational matter, hobbies, sports, popular science, animals, animal tales, voyages and travel, etc., should be well-selected. Material provided should be progressive so that an adolescent gets knowledge on a variety of subjects, including instructions with regard to academic sense through text-books. The class of borrower for whom the stock is intended should always be in the mind of the selector.

**What Kind of Public Librarian?**—Now a librarian's special outlook is to develop. He is to be unprejudiced, broad-minded, broad-sympathiser. He has to classify readers by

homogeneous and identifiable group, and for this purpose has to utilize social traits which have been found the most trustworthy bases for the description of reading as a social activity. This means preparation and use of a great body of statistical material from questionnaires in our public libraries. Thus the community is to be the unit of service rather than the individual. The type of books is to be more important in the public library than the individual volume; the whole population is to occupy the librarian's attention as well as the library's actual clientele, so that the disseminating, comparative judgment enriches the life all round. He can exercise this himself or through a Reader's Adviser. This is humanization of book service and library service, whether in rural centres where recreational and informational readings are provided in centres where adult education is stimulated and problem of the function of reading in the educational progress seems of vital importance to the librarian as well as to the professional educator.

The function of guidance—whether passive (affording merely an opportunity for the individual to carry on a process of emotional catharsis in order to rid his system of the accumulated poisons of repression and frustration), or active (educational process)—is to help the individual, and through the individual the group, to acquire the resources and techniques necessary for attacking a reader's problems more effectively.

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## A SURVEY OF LIBRARY ASSOCIATIONS IN INDIA

*By*

MR. P. KONDA REDDY.

The paper starts with the description of the important activities of the various library associations in most of the provinces of India. Among other topics, an account of the work done in the following matters is given in a fairly full and exhaustive manner : rural libraries, propaganda, library legislation, professional library training, and liquidation of adult illiteracy. The need for planning for an exhaustive union catalogue has been emphasised and its usefulness in the matter of inter-borrowing of books is discussed.

A classified account of (1) The Andhra Desa Library Association, (2) The Maharashtra Library Association, (3) The Baroda State Library Association, (4) The Bengal Library Association, (5) The Madras Library Association, (6) The Punjab Library Association, (7) The Assam Provincial Library Association, (8) The Government of India Libraries Association, and (9) Indian Library Association, has been appended under the following heads:—1. Date of Establishment. 2. Aims and objects. 3. Membership. 4. Meetings and conferences. 5. Funds and endowments. 6. Organisation : branches and affiliated associations. 7. Publications, and 8. Official address.

The author believes that the paper would serve the purpose of useful reference for library authorities, who are desirous of acquainting themselves with the various branches and methods of work, followed by different associations.

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## APPENDIX VI.

## PART C.

## SELECT PAPERS :

## PRINCIPLE OF INDIVIDUATION IN LIBRARY SCIENCE

*By*

S. R. RANGANATHAN. M.A., L.T., F.L.A.

*Librarian, Madras University Library,*

AND

*Secretary, Madras Library Association.*

Two of the five laws of library science<sup>1</sup> put their emphasis on the individual—the individual reader and the individual book. “Every Reader His Book” implies that a library has the duty of understanding the specific needs of every individual and serving him with the books that exactly satisfy those needs. Similarly “Every Book Its Reader” implies that the library has the duty of keeping itself informed of the specific information that every book gives, its specific point of view, style and standard and its distinctive aroma so that it may be ever on the look-out for the kind of readers that will be best served by them.

**Importance of Individuation**

Whatever may be said for monism in metaphysics especially as applied to soul and spirit, pluralism has to be reckoned with in the phenomenal world. As Whitehead puts it, “One characteristic of the primary mode of conscious experience is its fusion of a large generality with an insistent particularity.” So long as we recognise the library as a distinct institution, it is the “individuating particularities” and not what is common to the many among books as well as readers that need greater attention in the hands of those who organise and administer libraries. Nature is ever so cunning. “The possibilities of an

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1. Ranganathan (S. R.). *Five laws of library science*. 1931. (Madras Library Association, publication series, 2). Chapters 2-5.

2. Whitehead (Alfred North). *Modes of thought*. 1938. P. 7.

inconceivable number of constitutional differences in any given protein are instanced in the fact that the serum albumin molecule may, as has been estimated, have as many as 1,000 million stereoisomers. If we assume that serum globulin, myoalbumin, and other of the highest proteins may each have a similar number, and that the simpler proteins and the fats and carbohydrates, and perhaps other complex organic substances<sup>3</sup> may have a comparable number of isomers, it can readily be conceived how specific should be the differences that characterise not only genera and species but also individuals. The individual differences of readers have all the full impress of nature's infinite cunning. With books too, though the different copies of the same book have all the sameness of machine-production, the individual differences between different books are so marked that a good deal of librarian's job is taken away in laying them bare and matching them with the individual differences of readers.

### Reference Service

Treating the readers *en masse* will defeat the purpose for which a library exists. Mass-method will have to give way ultimately to individual-method. It is possible to adopt mass-methods of appeal at the publicity stage. A person may perhaps be addressed as a numeral within a crowd if it were simply to induce him to go to the library. Even at that stage experience has shown that shooting at random is not as effective as one would like it to be and hence personal canvassing becomes a necessity in the case of some. But once the reader has come to the library, he must be attended to personally. It is futile to serve two or more readers at the same time. (My colleague Sri Sundaram devotes his paper to explore this aspect of the Principle of Individuation.)

### Library Statistics

A library has to serve a large number of readers ; and it has to handle an even larger number of books. To be efficient in its

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3. Reichert (Edward Tyson) and Brown (Amos Peaslee). *The differentiation and specificity of corresponding proteins and other vital substances in relation to biological classification and organic evolution : the crystallography of hemoglobins*. 1909. (Carnegie Institution of Washington, publication 116). P. iii.

functioning it has to review its working from time to time ; and an annual audit of the turnover is desirable. The methods that it has to employ in such reviews and audit are those adapted to large numbers, *viz.*, statistical methods. These methods are by their nature designed to help us to see the wood and forget the trees. Hence one would expect the least scope for the play of the Principle of Individuation in the study of library statistics. Still it has to be remembered that the study of statistics is only a means to an end and the end includes individual service to readers. Hence the way in which the primary-data are collected and the final study has to be shaped have to be largely influenced by the Principle of Individuation. In fact while the methods employed in the study of library statistics are as impersonal as mathematics can make it, the initial stages and the final application have to be charged with personal flavour. (The paper of my colleague Sri A. Rajabhupati shows the ubiquitous nature of the Principle of Individuation and the various ways in which it seeks to enter a study of library statistics.)

### Book-Selection.

Book-selection is a primary activity of all libraries, large or small. To-day the rate of book-production is overwhelmingly large. Two results follow. All books are not of equal value. Some are good, some bad and some indifferent. Their evaluation implies the perusal of each book or at least reviews of each book. In a place like Madras which is 5,000 miles from its book market, perusal of the book is impossible. Reviews may not be available in good time in the case of the books that a specialised library would like to have. Hence, the book-selectors' knowledge of the individuality of the author affords the only criterion in many cases. There is also the problem of finance. It makes selection a necessity. To make the selection fulfil the laws of library science, the library has to bring to bear on book-selection the intimate knowledge it has built up, during its daily contact with individual readers, present as well as prospective. Thus the individuality both of the books and of the readers has to play a large part in book-selection. In many libraries seeking

to organise themselves on impersonal bureaucratic lines, the latter factor is lost sight of in setting up the machinery for book-selection. (My colleague Sri S. Ramabhadran elucidates in his paper the incidence of the Principle of Individuation in the theory of book-selection.)

### Periodical Publications

Of all the materials that a library takes, the periodicals have perhaps the greatest "individuating particularities." In a scientific or research library the number of periodicals taken is naturally large and the result is a full opportunity for the play of the Principle of Individuation in the administration of the periodicals current in such a library. The idiosyncrasies of periodicals are innumerable. Everything is uncertain about them. No two periodicals are alike either externally or internally. What is worse few are the periodicals that grow from year to year in a consistent way. Hence the task of keeping track of their "minute particularities" and the changes therein—in the matter of format, frequency of issue, period of volume, marriage, divorce, mortality, resurrection, book and periodical supplements and indexes—tax the periodicals section, binding section, and the cataloguing section severally and jointly. (A picture of the full sway of the Principle of Individuation in the matter of periodicals will be found in the paper contributed by my colleague Sri V. Jagannathan.)

### Catalogue

The business of the library catalogue is to list individually every unit in the library collection, be it a book, a periodical, a pamphlet, a map or a picture. The kinds of entries invented to-day are all calculated to bring out the individuality of every one of the resources of the library. The sections of each entry are again so designed as to concentrate the disclosure of the individuality in as few of them as possible. The Principle of Individuation has given a fundamental canon to cataloguing practice, *viz.*, Canon of Prepotency. (My colleague Sri K. M. Sivaraman examines in his paper the ramifications of this principle



in the theory of library catalogue. He traces the evolution of the theory of the Main Entry. He shows how the title entry, the author entry and the call number entry have been successively given the right to Main Entry.)

### Classification

If we remember the inexorable fifth law "A Library is a Growing Organism" and the command of the fourth law "Save the Time of the Reader," we can realise the fine point to which the Principle of Individuation should be carried out in classification. To make book-selection and administration of periodicals easy, to relieve the catalogue of a good deal of the burden which is rendered unbearable by the vicissitudes to which human speech is subject and to make reference service prompt, exact and exhaustive, the classification of the resources of a library should be carried out so thoroughly that not only each book, periodical and pamphlet but also every concept in the infinite universe of knowledge should be individualised. (This aspect of the Principle of Individuation is examined by me in the last paper of this symposium.)

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## ETHICS OF OUR PROFESSION

*By*

M. O. THOMAS.

The term 'Ethics' belongs to Moral Philosophy and is usually defined as the principles of human duty or the moral principles by which a person is guided. When applied to a profession, it is considered as the recognised rules of conduct in that profession.

Every profession has a few recognised moral codes or rules of conduct, some of which are written and some unwritten. The written codes ordinarily receive legal sanction and there is a penalty attached to their violation. Thus, for example, if a judge receives bribes, it is considered not only a violation of a professional moral code, but a violation of a legal code as well, or rather, a violation of a moral code which has legal sanction, and therefore the violator is punished.

Unwritten codes, on the other hand, have as a rule, no such legal sanctions. Hence their violators escape punishment provided by law. That does not mean, however, that they have less sanctity or are less binding than the written codes. As a matter of fact, they have, or they should have, even more sanctity as they are written on the conscience of human beings; and what is written in the human heart is much more holy, precious and binding than those written in Blue Books.

In this paper I am not concerned with ethics in general, nor with professional ethics in general, but with the ethics of one profession, namely, Librarianship. I do not, however, hold the view that the ethics of Librarianship differs substantially from the ethics of other professions. Yet, as every profession has certain distinguishing features which mark it off from every other profession, it follows that the moral codes or rather the 'dont's' and 'do's' of one profession are not exactly the same as those of another profession. Even if they are the same, there ought to be differences in emphasis on certain aspects of the codes due to the individual peculiarities of each profession.

Written laws of all professions, we may say, are more or less the same or at least they have a common basis. They are so plain and obvious, and legally binding too, that no one requires either any elucidation or an expository sermon on them. We dare not violate them with impunity because of fear of punishment if detected. Take, for instance, the matter of receiving illegal gratification which is possible in any and every profession. Not only does our conscience tell us that it is wrong, but also the laws of the State prohibit it on pain of punishment. And it is the fear of punishment which prevents many from receiving bribes even when the inner conviction that such a course is wrong is likely to be brushed aside in the face of strong temptations.

Now, in the matter of unwritten moral codes also, we have much in common with other professions. I do not mean to deal with those common factors either. But it is only to some of those points which, due to the peculiarities of our profession, are distinctly ours that I should like to call the attention of my fellow professionals. By fellow professionals I mean those who are holding responsible posts, those who 'run the show' and not the poor, low-paid men who do the grinding under them or carry out their orders. The ethics of the master is much more important than the ethics of the servant; for if the former is all right, it is not likely that the latter will, as a rule, go wrong.

In dealing with the subject, I shall divide it in the traditional way as duty to God and duty to man. At bottom they mean one and the same thing. Duty to God is duty to our fellow beings and *vice versa*. Yet for the sake of convenience we have to make the distinction. The first part may better be described as obedience to the dictates of one's conscience in the discharge of one's duties, and the second part may be subdivided into (1) duty to one's staff, (2) duty to one's authorities, and (3) duty to the public.

Now, as for the first part, namely, obeying the dictates of our conscience, it is not an entity in itself. Yet it is the most important factor in any moral code as it governs all our motives

and determines the course of all our actions. Unfortunately, the word 'conscience' is a much abused word. By constant self-deception, a person may so dull the fine edge of his conscience as to become a victim to self-delusion. In Biblical phraseology, this is what is known as "a sin against the Holy Spirit." The victim sees nothing wrong even when he violates the fundamental principles of ethics. It will, of course, be harsh to accuse any of our professionals of such a sin. Yet we cannot deny that there are a few in any profession who have what is known as a convenient conscience or rather an adjustable one. I would, therefore, prefer a less comprehensive term like honesty or integrity in dealing with the subject of our duty.

No one need to tell us what our duty is. We all know it. The question, however, from an ethical point of view is whether we discharge it honestly.

We all have heard of the old-world librarian who, having a cosy corner in his library, used to revel in his pastime of reading or dreaming. He never cared, nor did he pretend to care whether his library was used or not. The modern librarian, of course, has or should have a keener realisation of his responsibilities. He knows that his 'books are for use,' not only for his own use, but for the use of others as well. In spite of this realisation, however, he may be as bad as, if not worse than, the old-world librarian. For one thing, he can have, if he prefers, even a cosier corner than the old timer, a cosier one than even in his own home, a separate room fitted with electric fans and other amenities of modern life, where he may make a 'holy of holies' for himself and slumber away whenever he is inclined to do so.

In any profession, the 'topman,' the 'boss' is a free man; he is much more free than those under him. He is free to a very large extent "to dream, to do, to undo and to re-do things as he likes." No one should grudge us this freedom. In fact I feel that if any one of us has not got it, he should see to it that he gets it. But the abuse of that freedom, namely, sleeping away when you are supposed to be on duty is certainly

bad ethics, to say the least, and most certainly a very bad example to the staff and menials whom you expect to do honest and regular work. It is worse still, particularly when you try to convince the world, as a sort of compensation, that you are the most hard-working man in the community who puts in your office more than double the number of hours you are expected to put in and accuse your staff for not working such long hours as you do.

Now, I should like to ask you whether you honestly believe that you are working 12 hours a day because you are in your office all that time. If you really believe it, I do not hesitate to tell you that you are a victim of self-delusion ; very few people are capable of such long hours of work. If you will do a little introspection, you will find that a good portion of your long hour day is spent in devotion to the goddess of slumber and much of the other portion is devoted to your private work or hobbies. Yet you want the world to believe that you are a very hard-working man and the institution you preside over is an exceedingly busy institution. And since all men are not equally gullible and will not believe it so easily as you want them to believe, you invent ways and means of convincing them. You not only keep on telling all and sundry in season and out of season what a hard-working man you are and what a busy institution yours is, but also discover methods and devices to substantiate it. For example, on the plea of more service and better service to the public you increase the number of hours when the library is kept open, no matter whether there is demand for it or not. You impose longer hours of work on your staff even when the work can be finished in the usual normal hours. You publish false statistics in regard to the service you are rendering to the public. You arrange the duties of your staff in such a way as to make a real show of work. You catalogue for your authorities a series of items of work for each section and each member of the staff, some of which you yourself fully know are so exceedingly trivial as to be finished in a couple of minutes and then tell the authorities that many of those items of work are neglected or left unfinished because there are not enough hands. At the same

time you prefer old cumbersome methods of work to modern methods so that the staff may have more work to do. You fill your tables and counters with all kinds of books, files and papers in order to create the impression that there is much work to be done. And those items of work which may be conveniently disposed of during slack hours are purposely reserved for the rush hours so that the public may know how busy your library is. You invite people to visit your library during these 'busy' hours. At the same time you make half a dozen appointments in one and the same hour and you purposely make some of your visitors wait for a long time to see you. In the midst of these appointments you make yourself busier still by attending to some 'urgent' technical work or by giving instructions to your staff regarding their work. You are most happy if half a dozen of your staff and menials wait on you for your orders when the visitor is talking to you. By these and other devices, the total impression that you want to create is, of course, that the library is a very busy place, and the librarian an exceedingly busy man. Clever! But with Abraham Lincoln I would say, "You can fool some people all the time, all the people some time; but you cannot fool all the people all the time." You will be found out sooner or later.

Far be it from me to suggest that the majority, or even a minority of our professionals are of this type. But my fairly wide experience in our professional field has convinced me that there are a few who stoop to such methods either as a compensation for the neglect of their normal duties or for the sake of glory and fame for themselves. Now, a man who has an unsullied conscience, who is governed by honesty and integrity of purpose and motive does not need to resort to any of these unethical methods. He obeys the dictates of his conscience scrupulously in the discharge of his duties, performs them perfectly within the normal hours, is not afraid of being 'found out' and leaves glory and fame alone to take care of themselves. Furthermore, there is nothing questionable or unethical even in his performance of the other half of his duty, namely duty to his staff, authorities

and the public. For, as I have already mentioned, the attitude of a person towards this half of his duty is dependent upon his clear and clean conscience, the integrity of his purpose and motive.

Now let us turn to that half of a librarian's duty and consider first his relation to his staff. A modern librarian, I should say, is a much luckier person in many respects than the old-world librarian. The latter used to be accused of not giving adequate service to the public. But it is often forgotten that he never had a staff adequate enough or trained well enough to meet the requirements of such a service. We modern librarians have glorified (and rightly too) our profession and have to a great extent made library authorities and the public realise the scope and possibilities of the service we could render. Consequently many of our libraries (not all) are now-a-days getting establishments which are more or less adequate to the service we are supposed to give. But there are some librarians who, whatever the strength of their staff may be, make it a policy to complain in season and out of season that their libraries are understaffed. It is difficult to ascertain their motive in this matter. It may be that they desire to enlarge the field of their service. Or it may be that they want to make use of the staff to attend to their private work. Or perhaps it is to satisfy their vanity of commanding a large staff and enhancing their own glory and fame. Whatever their motive may be, they try to convince the authorities that they are terribly understaffed, and one of the methods of convincing them is by imposing longer hours on the existing staff even when their duties can be finished in the usual normal hours. And when it is found that they have not got enough work to do in their extended hours, some private work unconnected with the library is imposed on them. Poor dumb assistants! What can they do if their master uses them as tools for his personal ends.

We should certainly have an adequate staff; and if by putting the real honest facts before the authorities we are unable to get them, it is better that we try to render the best possible service with the staff we have rather than use unethical methods to get more hands.

Now, even supposing that a library is really understaffed, is a librarian justified in making his staff overwork on the plea that on no account should the quality as well as the quantity of service to the public suffer? It is no doubt a laudable motive on the part of a librarian that the public should have the best possible service (if that is really the motive). That kind of service may require more hands. But if the authorities for some reason or other do not sanction them, the sin of not providing the required service does not lie at the door of the librarian but of the authorities. And a librarian who makes his staff and establishment overwork on the plea that whether properly staffed or not, he must render the maximum service has, I think, a criminal attitude towards his subordinates. For the sake of discipline and efficiency, of course, you should expect your staff to be punctual and regular. They should not be allowed to wander about or chat when they are supposed to be in their seats doing their work. Now if you insist on such a discipline, it is not fair on your part to tell them that since you put in long hours, they should do likewise. Your long hours when compared to theirs are hours of freedom even when you are actually doing your official work; but their long hours are hours of drudgery, if not slavery. And no one can be too enthusiastic about drudgery. Even if an assistant is enthusiastic, you must have consideration for his health and private interests. After all, none of us need be martyrs to the cause of librarianship. Lack of sufficient opportunity for recreation and outdoor exercise is sure to tell upon the health of particularly those who are following sedentary professions, leading many a man to an early grave. And a librarian who deprives his subordinates of such opportunities is morally guilty of slow murder.

In any decent profession, there is a minimum as well as a maximum that is expected of its employees. That is fixed, and to a large extent standardised also, in accordance with factors like climatic conditions of the country in which we live, the type and grade of service we are supposed to render, etc. And the only employers who show an utter disregard of that standard



are the unscrupulous money-makers of society who live by the sweat of blood of other men. Fortunately, we belong to a superior profession and those who work under us have a right to their health and private interests. Any increase of hours imposed upon them in utter disregard of these essential human rights should, I think, be considered criminal particularly if the motive behind it is the enhancement of one's own glory and reputation. Even in the name of service, it cannot find any justification. You need not rob Peter to pay Paul; that is, make your staff sweat blood in order to provide perfect service to the public. I repeat that it is no argument for you to say that since you work long hours, they should also do likewise. Do not forget the difference that exists between you and them, between your pay and their pittance, between your work and theirs. You attend office when you like, work when you like, take a nap when you feel drowsy, receive visitors and chat with them, do whatever work you are pleased to do, and do nothing at all when you are disinclined. Of course, it ought not to be like that. But you have the freedom and there is none to see whether you use it or abuse it. Your subordinates have not got that freedom. Neither would you nor should you allow them that freedom. Whether they are inclined to work or not, they should work. You expect the maximum work out of them both in quality and quantity. They should give it even when they are forced to work under heavy strain like family worries, financial troubles, low vitality, poor health, etc., of which you are not aware. Whatever their private troubles, you expect them to be in their seats at the appointed time and turn out the usual work and it is only legitimate that you should also allow them to leave their seats at the appointed time. Either from the point of view of your private interests or even from the point of view of public interests, namely service, you have not got the moral or the legal right to detain your staff in your office beyond the normal hours or cut off their holidays. It is not only unethical, but also criminal to encroach on the private time of your staff and to deprive them of their opportunities for outdoor exercise, recreation, fulfilment of social obligations, etc., and to cause ruin to their health,

And from the point of view of the work of the library itself, I am sure you do not gain much. For, forced labour is sure to be shoddy labour. Increase in quantity will result in decrease in quality. The canon of extension and intension cannot be more suitably applied even in the field of classification.

Let us now turn to a consideration of the Librarian's duty towards his authorities. Here the most important question from an ethical point of view is not whether you run your administration efficiently, but whether you run it honestly. Do you for the sake of showing yourself an efficient administrator sacrifice the essential quality of honesty and integrity? Take, for example, the loss of books in your library. Your authorities want to ascertain the losses in your library and hence they instruct you to verify the stock and make a report yourself or appoint an outsider for the task. Now I want to ask you whether you place or help to place before the authorities the real facts about your losses. If the task is entrusted to you, do you make an honest job of it by verifying the stock carefully and reporting your actual losses? Or do you betray their trust in you by making a show of verification and then reporting that there is very little or no loss in your library? If an outsider is appointed as stock verifier, do you meddle with the stock list? Do you by making a prior stock verification yourself ascertain your losses beforehand and then pull out all the shelf list cards for which books are missing and hide them so that you actually deceive the stock verifier and the authorities regarding the actual facts about your losses? Your authorities want to ascertain the actual losses and you, either out of fear or desire to be known as an able librarian who does not even lose books, manipulate your shelf list, hide losses and deceive your authorities. I do not know whether anything can be more unethical than deceiving the body that has appointed you to your post and feeds you regularly. Now in this matter you are unfair not only to your authorities, but also to the public whom you want to believe from your reports that everything is quite O. K. with your library. You are even more unfair to your fellow professionals who are

honest and who show their actual losses. If the various authorities are inclined to compare notes regarding their losses, the honest librarian is sure to suffer because of his dishonest neighbour. Not knowing the actual facts about the neighbour's losses, his authorities may pull him up for his 'extraordinary' losses. So also you would make your honest would-be successor suffer. He is likely to be accused of inefficiency when, unlike you, he shows his actual losses. In order to cover one act of dishonesty, you are led to another or perhaps to a series of them. This is as in everything else.

Now, my fellow-professional, it is up to you and to me to "play the game, play fair, to be a man, to be an honest man above everything else. Your desire to be known as an efficient administrator is perhaps a legitimate one; but let it not be at the expense of your honesty and integrity. If you take sufficient precautions, your losses are not likely to exceed reasonable limits. Even if they do exceed, you should not be afraid of reporting them.

I shall raise only a couple of points regarding the third question of our duty to the public. In the matter of the application of your rules, for example, do you make a distinction between one reader and another? I remember the Vice-Chancellor of a small University ordering the librarian to exempt a Syndicate member from paying the usual fines on books which are collected from everyone else on the ground of forgetfulness which would not have been entertained in the case of an ordinary reader. Such preferential treatment does not only lower us in the estimation of the public but also reflects badly on the ethical ideals we are supposed to maintain. Law should be no respecter of persons and the benefit of its enforcement or relaxation should be given to all alike. So also in the matter of service, may I ask you whether you make a distinction between one reader and another? I have often seen librarians and readers' advisers waiting most politely and even officiously on some big men and treating the ordinary students who require some real help with scant courtesy. To be all attention to the big influential man and to pay no

attention to the poor needy student is no service at all. Real service is disinterested service with no ulterior motive. We would reach the peak point of our duty to the public when we give such a service to everyone of our clientele with equal promptitude and courtesy.

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## VILLAGE LIBRARIES AND ADULT EDUCATION

(A Bihar Experiment)

*By*

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Ever since the Mass Literacy Campaign was started in Bihar in April 1938 the promoters have given their anxious consideration, to the solution of the problem of maintaining the literacy acquired and of expanding the mental horizon of the adult pupil and developing him into a useful citizen. The task of making illiterates literate was not an easy one as in addition to the difficulties of organising the Movement on a nation-wide scale mainly with the assistance of voluntary workers we had to contend with the obstruction and discouragement offered by a section of the people and the age-old inertia, apathy and lack of self-confidence of the illiterate masses themselves. Even when these impediments were partially surmounted and the Movement made a fair headway all over the rural areas in the Province our problem was—what these new literates were going to read and how to prevent them from relapsing into illiteracy. Experience has taught us that if the learner is serious, learning to read is not difficult and the best incentive for him is the expectation of being able to read useful and interesting books. With an adequate supply of suitable literature, every new literate will prove to be an effective missionary in the cause of the expansion of literacy. Hence our problem was, in the language of Mr. F. L. Brayne, “Could we call illiterate India to a feast of literature when there was no food before her.”

Besides this, the liquidation of illiteracy was not an end in itself, rather it was the first step in the process of the liquidation of the ignorance of the masses and of providing real Adult Education. It was essential that in the next stage of our Movement suitable provision should be made for giving the new literate adequate knowledge on all subjects which are of use to him in his

daily life, so that he may prove to be a better farmer, a better artisan and above all a better citizen able to offer responsive co-operation to the State in promoting his material welfare.

It was therefore felt that the best method of maintaining the literacy of the adult pupils was by arranging for the regular supply of suitable literature. The newspaper and the Library were the best agencies for providing Adult Education at this stage, as literacy without libraries has no permanent value. The villager has a hunger for news as a proof of which it may be said that the village barber even now is in great demand everywhere for his budget of village gossip. Our first step was therefore to publish a fortnightly news sheet called the *Roshni*. It is edited by a Honorary Editorial Board with Prof. A. Mannan as the Editor-in-Chief. This News sheet gives a careful selection of news items which are likely to prove interesting and useful to the rural readers. Market prices, epidemic warnings, changes in laws and short articles in different aspects of rural life form its principal features.

The next stage was to start a net work of libraries in the villages for these new literates, but here we were faced by a formidable obstacle. On looking about for books for these new readers, we found that there were few suitable books in the market. The new literate is only in the very first stage of his education and he can somehow read and write a few hundred of common words with which he is familiar in his daily life. In our Province, as in many others, there is a wide gap between the spoken language and the language of the printed books and the new literate has therefore to be led gradually up the steps so as to be able to read and appreciate the literature of his Province. Besides this, the modern literatures of India have been shaped and influenced largely by the English educated writers and they make a ready appeal to those who are in touch with Western education and Western culture. It was idle to expect that the villager who has but recently acquired literacy would be able to drink at this fountain. The literature that will move the masses will be the creation of those who have been of the masses or those who have

identified themselves with the hopes and aspirations of the masses and are thus able to appreciate their view-points and difficulties. It was necessary, therefore, to write books specially for these new readers so that in course of time a new literature may develop which will reflect the cultural aspirations of the masses and will serve as a feeder to the existing Provincial literatures. The same difficulty has been felt by the American Association for Adult Education. This organisation has succeeded in producing books in a style that makes reading easy and pleasurable and the points are driven home by apt illustrations of common experience. For books for adults it was also considered necessary that the size should be small and the types used should be fairly large. The adult pupil may carry the book in his pocket and pull it out for the occupation of spare moments that might otherwise run to waste. The instances of cowherds reading books while engaged in their work, of cultivators reading under the trees during their midday rest period or Ekkawalas or Rickshaw-pullers trying to unravel the mysteries of the printed book while waiting for their next fare are not uncommon in Bihar now-a-days.

It was therefore decided, at the instance of Dr. Syed Mahmud, ex-Minister of Education and founder of the Movement, that in those villages where literacy work had attained a fair amount of success a library consisting of 100 books specially written for this purpose should be started and efforts should be made to supply one weekly newspaper to each of these Libraries as far as possible. The cost of each booklet was fixed at one pice so that the new literates may be able to buy them as well. Babu Ramlochan Saran, Proprietor of the Pustak Bhandar, Laheria Sarai, whose benefactions in the cause of Adult Education are too well-known to require repetition, undertook the task of preparing and publishing one set of 100 Hindusthani booklets in Nagri and one set of Hindusthani booklets in Urdu Script. These books cover a wide range of subjects as Domestic Economy, Agriculture, Manure, Cattle Diseases, Biographies, History, Politics, District Board, Railway, Coal, Soap-making, Pickles

and Chutneys, Religious stories, Khadi, Varnish and Polish, etc. For the Bengali Libraries one set of 27 books priced at one anna each has been published under the distinguished editorship of Prof. Dr. B. B. Majumdar, M.A., Ph.D., and others. Dr. Rabindra Nath Tagore has very graciously permitted the editors to reprint one of his short stories in this series and has thereby enabled the new literates of Bihar to make their personal acquaintance with the greatest poet of India.

Efforts have been made to persuade existing Public Libraries, in urban and rural areas to start special sections for the new literates and to arrange for sending out books to the literacy centres in the neighbourhood. At Bhagalpur due to the efforts of Mr. S. M. Alam, the Inspector of Schools, the Ramanand Circulating Library has been started and the Bhagalpur Municipality has taken over charge of its maintenance. At Patna, Mr. Harbans Lall, Inspector of Schools, has succeeded in raising funds for equipping a Library on wheels and this has been made over to the Bihar Hitaishi Library of Patna City. In addition to this, efforts have been made to start Libraries for Adults in connection with Literacy Centres. The T. K. Ghosh Academy of Patna was the first to start an enterprise of this kind.

The Government of Bihar has very kindly sanctioned Rs. 22,000 for starting 3,800 Hindusthani and 200 Bengali Village Libraries in this Province. It has been found possible to supply weekly newspapers to a fairly large number of Village Libraries. These have been organised and are under the supervision of the officers of the Department of Public Instruction.

These Libraries are intended not only for the men made literate at the Literacy Centres but for all literate men of the village. Books and newspapers may be read at the place where the Library is located during the day-time or in the evening, if suitable lighting arrangements can be made by local subscriptions. Even if this is done, the issue of books for home study is encouraged and necessary entries made in the Issue Registers which have been provided. Librarians receive no remuneration. Their duties



are to persuade the new literates to read books and newspapers and to help them in reading and understanding them. One day in the week is fixed for the reading of newspapers and the new literates and other villagers are invited to assemble when some of them are asked to read the newspapers by turn. The Librarian helps them in reading and explaining important items in the news or any important articles in the newspapers. The Librarian helps the reader in selecting suitable books and occasionally tests also whether the books have been read. Our set of books covers a very wide range of topics and it is possible that some of the villagers may feel interested in a particular topic and may require more information about it. The Librarian is encouraged to organise study circles for the study and discussion of such topics and additional literature on these subjects is supplied to him.

These Libraries have just been started. Much of their success will depend on the enthusiasm and organising capacity shown by the Librarians and the supply of successive instalments of suitable books. It may be possible later on to publish a series of One-anna books, followed by a Two-anna series so that our new circle of readers may never be in want of useful reading matter. Here is a wide field for work for an army of authors, publishers and booksellers to cater to the needs of this new reading public. It will be necessary not only to publish suitable books at nominal prices but also to build up a well organised distribution system so that it may be possible for the villager to buy his book from the village grocer or in the village *Mat* along with his requirements of salt, kerosine oil or groceries. If this plan is carried into practice only then shall we be successful in liquidating the ignorance of the masses.

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## INDIAN LIBRARIES AND ADULT EDUCATION

*By*

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The movement for Adult Education is the vital need of India at the present time. Educational activities in India are very limited in their scope and therefore the progress of the masses is immensely hampered. The literacy movement that is being carried on in different provinces by their respective Governments and other enthusiasts may be said to be in its infancy as yet. The object is to make the illiterate familiar with the word in the printed page. But mere literacy is not the end of education. It is just a beginning, and there still remains the main function of education which is to enable the so-called literate to read significant material intelligently and utilize the knowledge thus acquired, and the time at their disposal for the moral and material betterment and uplift of the individual.

The scope of adult education is very wide. It is not limited to the elementary stage of literacy alone ; it includes activities from the elementary education of the adult to post-graduate education of the college graduate ; from informal talk in educational matters to formal courses ; from activities largely recreational to activities specifically vocational. In short it has become one of the most important movements of the present-day life.

The following are the four aspects of Adult Education as put forth by the Adult Education Committee, appointed by the Government of Bombay, in its report published in 1938 :—

- (1) to enable adults to make successful efforts, individually and collectively, to improve their resources and amenities of life, and to protect themselves and their community from exploitation and disintegration ;

- (2) to enable adults to adjust their minds to new problems ;
- (3) to make good, deficiencies in education—in particular, the attainment in literacy ;
- (4) to train both for leadership and for participation in the common life.

The progress of a nation depends, to a large extent, on the trend of progress of the adults in it. The younger generation is living in the adult world ; as the children spend a very small portion of their waking hours in school. The adults have, therefore, a great responsibility of preparing the younger generation for the future advancement of the country. The proverb “ child is the father of man ” and that he is much influenced by the environments must be always borne in mind.

It is, therefore, quite clear that our educational efforts must primarily concentrate on the improvement of the intellectual capacity of the adults in our country. The literacy campaign must carry on its programme vigorously. But to impress its effects permanently on the minds of the adults and to give a beneficial turn to their educational attainments, the library is, perhaps, the best institution which can play a prominent part in this respect. It is one of the important cultural and educational agencies like schools and colleges, clubs and universities. Its object is to make the finest and most complete development of the citizen as an individual and as a member of the community. The healthy and generous spirit of co-operation must prevail amongst all the existing libraries, and especially amongst the libraries of the same city. The public library is the heart and co-ordinating centre of adult educational activities. Therefore, if the already existing libraries in the cities and towns, come forward to give substantial help to and support whole-heartedly the literacy movement in the country, they will be doing a great service to the nation.

In most of the progressive countries in the world, it is the Government which does its best in making such activities of far-reaching importance a success. The Government of India also with the active co-operation of the Indian Library Association,

should take this work in its hands to create true life in it. It is high time now for the Government to introduce library-rate in all the provinces to raise funds for managing the existing libraries on proper lines and for starting new central, provincial and branch libraries. They should open a Department of Libraries with directors and inspectors for supervising and controlling the working of all the libraries and for creating complete co-operation among them, which will help to increase rapidly the number of persons who have properly developed the library habit. The travelling libraries, village libraries and reading rooms also can be maintained with the support and guidance of Government officials.

According to the scheme planned, for the organization of Village Libraries, under the general direction of the Central Board of Adult Education, by the Adult Education Committee of the Government of Bombay, there will be :—

- (a) District Libraries for 20 districts.
- (b) 15 to 20 Group Circulating Libraries under each District Library.
- (c) 5 or 6 Village Circulating Libraries under each Group Circulating Library.
- (d) Approximately 8,000 Reading Rooms.

If the above-mentioned scheme is brought into operation, it will cover the Bombay Presidency with a net-work of Reading Rooms and Libraries.

It is also gratifying to note that the Government of Bombay have recently appointed a Committee to prepare a scheme for starting a Central Public Library in Bombay and three branch libraries in Poona, Dharwar and Ahmedabad. It is expected that the Committee would soon place its report before the Government and the Government would also take immediate action on it. Such attempts must have been going on in other provinces also. It is hoped that all the Provincial Governments would concentrate their attention on the organization of a net-work of libraries throughout the country as early as possible to make the nation's intellectual progress sound and substantial.

The Indian Library Association, since its foundation, has been doing its bit and that quite successfully. It published a Directory of Indian Libraries in 1938, from which we find that the total number of Indian Libraries possessing more than 5,000 books each is 269 only ; and the total number of books in all of them is nearly 5 millions. These figures tell the sad tale that in comparison with the reading public, which is about 80 millions in the country, the number of libraries and books in them is quite negligible, and that this movement has a great deal of leeway to make in order to fulfil its aims. Most of the 269 libraries are accessible to a very small percentage of the urban educated public *i.e.*, only a few of the educated adults are members of these libraries. The financial position and the general management of most of them is also unsatisfactory.

The lapsing into illiteracy of a large number of adults every year, and wastage of expenditure on making them literate, can be well saved, if the Government takes up the noble cause of the Library Movement in its hand along with that of literacy. Generally the expenditure incurred on the education of the children, leaving school in or before the fourth vernacular standard, is utterly wasted and therefore arrangements for their reading will go a long way for the continuation of their literacy.

The cinema and the radio are respectively the visual and auditory mechanical aids to acquire knowledge and have become very popular in all advanced countries in the world, as they have a pleasant combination of education and entertainment. The Library movement will be effectively popularised by means of slides, educational films and radio talks. In cities, towns and villages, the public libraries and reading rooms should be furnished with these aids to attract the masses and thus induce them to visit their local library every now and then, which will gradually reveal to them the advantages of close contact with it and will help much to develop amongst them, what is called the library habit.

The trained and experienced librarian will, of course, play a prominent part managing the libraries in their charge with professional skill and the utmost care to see that the Laws " Books

are for use " and " Every book has its reader " are fully satisfied. They shall have to keep in mind the current public interest while making the selection of books. They shall have to take part in various public activities and render help by placing before the different groups of persons, the information and material available in their libraries and likely to be of use for their particular interests, and for the education of public opinion.

Up-to-date, classified and elaborately indexed catalogues of vernacular literature on various branches of knowledge, if prepared and published by the Provincial Library Associations will help a good deal to make the selection of books particularly useful for the different grades of adults. Such a catalogue of Marathi literature has already been prepared by one enthusiast in Maharashtra, Mr. S. G. Date. The catalogue is classified according to the popular Dewey's Decimal Classification and the subdivisions of books on Vedic literature are made according to Rao Saheb S. R. Ranganathan's Colon Classification. It includes almost all Marathi books published up to the end of 1937 numbering about 20,000.

The preparation of such elaborate catalogues, widening the clientele of all the existing libraries in India and extending library facilities in such a way as would easily reach the doors of the majority of the rural public, which forms three-fourths of India's population, will indeed mean a step forward taken by the Library movement towards the advancement of adult education. It is primarily rural India which is very thirsty for such important facilities and most of the efforts towards the adult education movement must in the first place concentrate on the uplift of the adults in the villages. The urban public being in close touch with the everyday progress in cities and towns, do not find it as difficult as their rural brethren to fulfil the four aspects of adult education mentioned in the beginning of this paper.

This shows how enormous the work is before the Government, the Indian Library Association and the promoters of the library movement. It is hoped that they will work hard to bring about rapid progress in the line.

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## THE PSYCHOLOGY OF THE READER

*By*

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There is a curious phenomenon of the Library World which requires proper understanding before we can proceed with any kind of reforms. That is the general, gentle reader. To understand him is to understand his psychology, to study his behaviour, his attitude towards books, his emotional and sentimental reactions, his avowed indifference towards different kinds of printed matter; we are to move as his values and standards shift, change and disappear. His study, in fact, will afford us a constructive and realistic solution to the problems of the library and the librarian.

A librarian is not to be contented with a few chairs or tables or almirahs or a fine building. He is not to be the old meek retiring individual satisfied with his dust-gathering volumes. He is to be something more. He is to go further. The progress of his library depends upon his readers. With his resources, he has to enrich their experience and contribute to their personnel and social effectiveness. There is to be an insight into the fundamental motivation which lies behind his everyday "intruder's" mind. The custodian of books has not only to use preventive mental hygiene, but has to use his technique of adjustment in the case of his library friends whose lives are being dwarfed in economic and social maladjustments of the present civilization of conflict, chaos and crisis.

**The Child-Reader.**—His work, in fact, starts with the child-reader and his psychology. A child's mental world is to be entered; his likes and dislikes are to be analysed and examined. We are not to pauperize a child's mind; we are to open it to the lights of the world. The new psychology of childhood banishes for ever the old-fashioned psychology that considered boys and girls as immature or miniature men and women. The needs of

the two "publics" with which the library deals, the child and the adult, are as separate, distinct and different in their nature as we hold parleys with two races in different worlds. Our failure as adults to realize this need for knowing the requirements of the race we call children is responsible for the oblivion into which some of our reformers of school libraries have fallen.

**Children's Librarian's Complicated Job.**—The children's librarian to-day has a much more complicated job than before. Questions of policy, of organization and of co-operation beset him on every hand. Books are his medium in the smallness of the field of children's literature. Opportunity is his keystone—opportunity if he can keep his spirit clear and alive, to become a sort of channel through which some hint of the glory of the universe can get through the children by means of the contagion of his own unfeigned enthusiasm for books. A librarian's responsibility lies in providing the books that give a child his imagination, intelligence, curiosity and experience, satisfactory material to grow on, and provides an escape from the standardization and regimentation which lessen the child's opportunity to develop his own ideas or to trust his own imagining. Salvation lies in the growth of the child's personality. The children's room is the only place where a child comes as an individual, with individual tastes and interests. Such a room, whether in a school or a public library has become a recognised element in the education of boys and girls to-day.

For that reason, the choice of a children's librarian, a patient psychologist-sympathiser, is in the last analysis the measure of the success of the library's children's room, a success that must depend on the effectiveness of the channel by means of which children and books are brought into the right relationship. All cannot change books from dead things on the shelf into living breathing realities for the child.

**In a School.**—Thus the librarian's objectives (for instance, in a school) are to get children into the library, to keep them coming, and once he has them there, to contribute to their



well-being in as many ways as possible. He has to use all of the devices he can conjure up to get them in and keep them coming. For that reason, a library is to be attractive, informal and comfortable with upholstered chairs, little sofas, if possible, stools that could be pulled up to the shelves, regular tables and chairs, bright colours in the room, curtains at the windows adding softness, nice pictures hung below, low shelving installed with space on top for displaying things.

Children are very sensitive to real or imagined unfairness. A librarian should know when rules should be broken, know when to be inconsistent.

We should try to keep the children's libraries open for a large part of the day.

Probably the most obvious work of the librarian is reference work. The children of to-day do think for themselves; they use the library for their own problems. A librarian has to introduce a child to the world of arts, adventures, new, rare things. He has no particular subject-axe to grind. One is as important for him as another.

**Various Methods.**—In a school library, story-telling by a librarian can acquaint children with great literature. Dramatizations are invaluable training to the child. Children should be allowed to design their own book-marks so that their originality is kept. Music and library can very definitely be connected. A stamp club and a library club can be started so that a librarian gets a real chance to know the special interests of children and to encourage their hobbies. A school can start a magazine, through the librarian, to provide a vehicle for the gifted children. A photograph contest can also be useful. Talks from outsiders can also be beneficial.

**Resourcefulness.**—A successful school librarian will be, therefore, resourceful in finding ways and means to advertise new materials, and will keep the faculty as well as the student body constantly informed concerning added books, incoming magazines, pamphlets, and news clippings. The librarian is a personal

worker, having a hand to-day even in the direction of the students' vocational interests, for no high school library can afford to be lacking in up-to-date occupational study material through which students may browse in their efforts to come to some conclusions about their futures. Through unlimited materials available on all trades and professions the librarian holds the key to many doors of vocational interest, and his ingenuity must be constantly at top speed in administering to these interests. The new concept of guidance, therefore, will be "to distribute youth as effectively as possible to educational and vocational opportunities, that is, subjects curricular, extra-curricular activities, to higher institutions and vocations, and to help the individual make the *optimum* adjustment to educational and vocational situations." Such a guidance may be carried through advertising, posters, exhibits, illustrative materials, toys in the library display cases, and extra-curricular duties such as sponsoring of clubs and library squad group, as already explained. The compilation of a bibliography of all materials in the school library which relate to the development of the guidance programme is, therefore, to-day an essential though Herculean task.

**Questionnaire.**—Cannot we use the following questions to know the psychology of our little readers? Do you enjoy reading? What type of book do you enjoy reading most? What do you read most—books, magazines, newspapers? What magazines do you read? What newspapers do you read? What part or parts of the newspaper do you usually read—Headings, news section, sports, radio programmes, news of the week, book reviews, comics, magazine section, any other section? What sports do you enjoy? What hobbies do you have—at home, at school? What motion pictures or plays have impressed you most? What are your favourite radio programmes? What is your favourite class-room subject? Do you use the library at home? Why don't you read more? Do you know what business or profession you will follow?

**Selection of Books.**—Selection of books, though according to the children's tastes, can also be made with regard to books

that make them laugh. Picture books, fairy tales and folklore, stories of children and their pets (for children up to 10 and for those who are from ten on), books of other lands, nature stories, adventure stories, school and sports stories, hobbies and handicraft, historical stories, biography, etc.

**The Adolescent.**—If a child-reader requires our immediate attention, an adolescent needs it too. The psychology of the adolescent is as much interesting as that of a child. Adolescence here has more reference to mental development than physical age. His trust gained in childhood changes into mistrust; his powers of control have not progressed as rapidly as either his body or his brain; they are not adequate safeguards. Every action now is accompanied by an equal and opposite reaction, and “sudden emancipation, increased freedom from restraint and the realisation of personality” are accompanied by reactions that can constitute a menace. These factors are to be understood by a librarian who is to cater to the needs of adolescents. To attract them to a library requires energy and skill, different methods, a change of outlook and policy. It is the most stimulating work in the library world. The adolescent will enter the section a child and will leave it an adult. That fact alone constitutes the most vital reason for special care.

An adolescent reaches a stage when he is crazy for one thing after another. Very special precautions are, therefore, needed in regard to the selection of books. Since he has no balance of mind, an evil can find a fertile ground always; his physical instincts aid and abet bad influences; he has no defence except in the librarian who is to hold great responsibility.

**Not To Be a Bad Censor.**—Thus such a librarian has to be careful about clean, healthy sentiments as about religious tracts and moral treatises. But he is not to be a bad censor of public reading. He is to be cautious in using his immense power of suggestion with a teacher-like attitude. He is to note that severely practical appeals to an adolescent and effeminacy only excite derision and contempt. He desires to do things himself.

He sees himself in the guise of superman. The exploits of the heroes, the desire to explore, urge to read that literature which is to his advantage interest him. Brought up in sordid or unimaginative homes, they should be well-received in children's libraries or rooms.

**Sex Question.**—There is the question of sex yet to be examined after Freud. It is a peculiarly complex problem. In a college the choice of fiction must depend upon its proper solution. In itself it is almost sufficient reason for separating the two classes of borrowers in a college where there is co-education. But a librarian with any tact can ensure that the mingling is kept within proper limits.

In our libraries, there should be Adult Departments. There the stock should be graduated for adolescents of different ages. They need special books, more advanced, as they get older. Side by side they need more advanced training, lectures, exhibitions and all kinds of extension work through outside speakers suited to their age and mental capacity. The methods employed should be based on those used in the Children's Library, with the extensions and modifications made necessary by the age of the borrowers.

**Practical Facilities.**—It is better to employ time and money in providing practical facilities than in surrounding the youngsters with artistic designs. Rubber flooring can be used for them, though, the tables, chairs and book-stacks must be of sturdy construction, for adolescents are not constituted to tread or handle very carefully. A light oak is very pleasant to view; darker shade is more serviceable; writing desks without ink (or with sunken ink-well) are needed. The chairs should not be too comfortable so as to encourage lounging. Bulletin boards, small tables, staff enclosure, book-stacks, boards for notices and displays, holders for periodicals, catalogue accessories, etc., must be attractive; the planning of the department should occupy the librarian's mind rightly.

Books must appeal to practical minds. Only accurate works should be provided. Books on technical details, fictions,

adventure, cultural and recreational matter, hobbies, sports, popular science, animals, animal tales, voyages and travels, etc., should be well-selected. Material provided should be progressive so that an adolescent gets knowledge on a variety of subjects including instructions with regard to academic sense through text-books. The class of borrower for whom the stock is intended should always be in the mind of the selector.

**Adult For a Public Library.**—And when an adult leaves the walls of a college or a University, he becomes a psychological problem for a public library. Such a library has to become the means of propagating culture to the masses and has to cater to the needs of the grown-up who has entered a profession or is looked forward to enter one. Politics, Economics, etc., all interest him now. He is now a product of well-developed emotions, instincts, urges, etc. There is a certain residue of rationality, irrationality, diversity and specificity. Different subjects, at this stage, humanize and personalize every phase of human experience.

**What kind of Public Librarian?**—Now a librarian's social outlook is to develop. He is to be unprejudiced, broad-minded, broad-sympathiser. He is not to jump to near-sighted and narrow-visioned conclusions. There is to be reasonableness of intellectual leadership with clear-cut social outlook. His book selection resolves into an effort to elicit and organise sociological and psychological findings concerning readers; in other words, "he has to classify readers by homogeneous and identifiable groups, and for this purpose has to utilize social traits which have been found the most trustworthy bases for the description of reading as a social activity." This means preparation and use of a great body of statistical material from questionnaires in our public libraries, which when analyzed, will suggest certain requirements and deficiencies, some of which it will be within the province of the library to fulfil. These, when evaluated by standards inherent in the library's social and local purpose, will represent the desirable objectives of book selection. Thus the community is to be the unit of service rather than the individual. The type of books is to be more important in the public library

than the individual volume; the whole population is to occupy the librarian's attention as well as the library's actual clientele, so that the disseminating, comparative judgment enriches the life all round. He can exercise this himself or through a Reader's Adviser. This is humanization of book service and library service, whether in rural centres where recreational and informational readings are provided or in centres where adult education is stimulated and the problem of the function of reading in the educational process seems of vital importance to the librarian as well as to the professional educator.

**Function of Guidance.**—Thus, whatever may be the philosophies of librarianship, one of the chief concerns of the library profession is to understand the readers and to encourage them to utilize the resources of the library in a way which will give a new lease to their lives. The function of guidance—whether passive (affording merely an opportunity for the individual to carry on a process of emotional catharsis in order to rid his system of the accumulated poisons of repression and frustration) or active (educational process) is to help the individual, and through the individual the group, to acquire the resources and techniques necessary for attacking a reader's problems more effectively. It means approaching the reader from a psychological point of view—to have an insight into the fundamental motivation which lies behind the individual's special interests in life expressed in his everyday reading. A librarian, therefore, has to find out the right book, for the right reader, at the right time and has to find out "what books, do what things, to what people at what times, and under what circumstances." He is to be a professional librarian-cum-psychologist, analysing the reader's interest through his researches, employing techniques of guidance and re-education to help the individual to work out a constructive and realistic solution to his problems.

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## A THEORY OF REFERENCE TOOLS

By

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Libraries exist to satisfy all the needs of an individual or community that printed word can.

The needs range from simple fact-finding to the culture which is the life of a community, both in its material and vocational phases, and in its intellectual, aesthetic and scientific phases. "

Librarianship ensures that such needs of the community as printed word can satisfy, are fulfilled in the most efficient way.

Consider for a moment the simile that the bringing together of a book and a reader desirous of reading a book is a marriage between a mind and the work.

Now a marriage comes off in one of the two ways: A man or his relations may chance upon the wife, or they may take recourse to the help of an expert. In Japan, *e.g.*, the custom of procuring the aid of professional match-makers, commands the respect of age. The expert may either be simply told that the client covets a particular bride, or may merely be told the requirements that the would-be wife is expected to fulfil. The expert takes notice of the requirements of the client, his tastes, status, etc., and without fail produces the photo of a woman whose hand he is authorised to give to his client.

Reference Librarians are like that. They provide for the desirous reader the sort of information or material he needs, and he does it in a remarkably short time. If you did not know the tricks and tools of his trade you would think he is omniscient, at least in the matter of books—and there is the story of an illusion.

The story from inside is, however, quite simple. Reference work, as any other skilful work, is a matter of the use of certain

tools, the use which come of deep acquaintance and patient training and results in a technique. Further, like any other professional the reference librarian has developed a code designed to smooth his work and impart dignity to it.

This morning we will not speak of the code, nor of the training, nor the technique. We will only ask: What are these tools which enable the reference librarian to locate his exact grain of sand in a pyramid far more colossal than any Pharaoh ever built. We will limit the field of our enquiry still more by speaking only of the type of tools rather than individual tools.

The secret of all these tools is order, method, and system. It is order which is a reference librarian's Alladin's Lamp.

The first pure tool of a reference librarian is, of course, the Dictionary. It is as easy to consult a dictionary, and often as pleasant, as to go down a gradient on a push-bike. That is why some people as soon as they open a dictionary, forget the purpose for which they had opened it and begin to roam gaily all over it. And that is why authors and publishers willing to exploit this weakness in us call any compilation arranged alphabetically a dictionary. But in library parlance a language-dictionary alone is a dictionary. A language-dictionary gives us information about words only, their form, history, pronunciation, and meaning, etc.

Dictionaries, broadly speaking, are of two types—general and departmental. Both these types may be un-lingual or bi-, tri-, etc., lingual.

The general dictionaries, like, *e.g.*, the Webster, cover the entire range of a language and do not go deep into technical terms. Some of these general dictionaries are quick working tools like the Concise Oxford. Others, like the Oxford English Dictionary, are lexiconal encyclopædias.

The departmental dictionaries specialise in one department of knowledge. They purport to explain all the terms that are used in that particular department, and are therefore technical



works. The besetting sin of these dictionaries is that they transgress their limits and instead of explaining the meaning of a term presume to elucidate the thing signified by the term. But unless they are frankly departmental encyclopædias, such dictionaries evoke only 'blanket' response from those who know the subject.

In general, it is easy to cross over from the word to the things signified by the word. Our best dictionaries are like that; that is to say, they are dictionaries as well as to some extent encyclopædias. They contain other useful matter besides their dictionary elements, and it is the duty of every reference librarian to make himself thoroughly familiar with the contents of any great dictionary in his library.

The next stage on the reference librarian's journey is at hand, if indeed we have not already arrived at it. It is the Encyclopædia. Normally, when an experienced reference librarian is confronted with a problem he knows where to look for the solution. But at times, and the times will be numerous for the novice, he is face to face with a problem that defies his memory and experience. Then he remembers that discretion is the better part of valour and turns to an encyclopædia for help.

Encyclopædias have as their sphere the entire range of knowledge. Of course, nowa d ays, knowledge is not so limited, as to be encompassed within the cover of one volume or of a few volumes. But if we view the whole vastness of knowledge as a macrocosm, it is the ambition of an encyclopædia to give us a microcosmic view of this vastness.

There are encyclopædias and there are encyclopædias, from the magnificent Britannica to non-descript rank and file. To which one the reference librarian will turn in the moment of his trial depends on his client. For superficial and slight knowledge take out a lowly one, for laying the foundation of a deep and broad knowledge of a subject the Britannica with its bibliography is peerless.

Encyclopædias like dictionaries, are of two kinds—general and departmental. General encyclopædias are too well known these days to be introduced formally to librarians—of all persons. But departmental encyclopædias appear in various and interesting garbs. For example, *Who's Whos* are nothing but biographical encyclopædias. *Gazetteers*, again, are encyclopædias of geographical places. And so on.

We spoke of encyclopædias as microcosm of knowledge. If a reader is not satisfied with the microcosm the reference librarian introduces him to the macrocosm. The best way to do so is to turn to bibliographies.

Bibliographies are of four kinds. First, general—which list all books without limitation of country or subject. Second, national—which list books, published in a country or about a country. Third, trade—which list books published, or in print, with prices, etc. Fourth, subject—which list books and articles about a given subject.

It is the last variety, the subject bibliographies, which are of the greatest aid to a reference librarian. Henceforth, in this paper bibliography will mean subject bibliography—that is to say, departmental bibliography.

Here I will crave your indulgence to allow me to stretch the term bibliography to include the indexes especially, to periodicals. This is not the proverbial stretching of a point, for the indexes serve the same purpose as bibliographies, the purpose of reducing to control the bewildering prolificity of printed matter, the purpose of cutting paths in the macrocosm of knowledge. In this task we cannot afford to neglect periodicals. For they have an advantage over the mere book lists.

Bibliographies, like printed library catalogues, as soon as published, become out of date. You will remember poor Sisyphus' task—though it is not so thoroughly vanishing. Well, that is one disadvantage, the other one is that books, especially, scientific books, are, these days, no longer fresh dishes but just *réchauffés*.

For the latest information about a subject, outside the mind of a specialist, you have to look to periodicals. It appears in book form only when it is stale, and sometimes not even that. And then to-day's busy-a-day hurrying and speeding man would not like to look at long pages of a book if the matter he seeks is available in a shorter form in periodicals.

For all these reasons periodicals are an integral part of to-day's printed output. But their number is bewildering. To bring this embarrassing prolificity under his control the reference librarian—I am not speaking of India—has at hand the potent tool which is the Index to periodicals.

Indexes are, however, not confined to periodicals. In England, and especially in America, most of the tiny things in the world of print are indexed. There are indexes to essays, those fugitive creatures, indexes to plays, short stories, obituaries, book reviews, patents, trade-marks, pictures and the usual of course, etc.

Having thus included indexes in the term bibliography, we will try to gauge the variety and use of this type of tool for the Reference Librarian. To earn the designation of bibliography it is sufficient to list the titles of books, in some order. In bibliographies prepared according to the rules of the game, however, the author, title, publisher, place of publication, date of publication are all given in a definite order.

This kind of bibliography is, however, only better than nothing. It requires to be supplemented in three directions.

In the first place, one requires to know about the mode of presentation of material in a book. Essentially, there are three modes of presenting a subject, the narrative, the tabular, and the illustrative. An intelligent author knows how to use the three modes of presentation to the best advantage. The vast majority of books are in the narrative form and no special mention is, therefore, required to indicate this method of presentation.

The other two modes, the tabular, and the illustrative, however, require separate mention. The tabular mode is analytical,

It splits up the subject into items and presents them in a suitable arrangement. Statistical treatment of a subject is the high water-mark of this mode of presentation.

When, however, one requires to know how the thing looks as a whole, the illustrative mode is the most suitable. It is the synthetic mode as opposed to the tabular, the analytical. Pictures, maps, diagrams, etc., are some of the forms of the illustrative mode of presentation and require to be specifically mentioned when they contribute materially to the text of a book or item.

So much about the mode of presentation. The second point worth mentioning about a book is the nature of use to which the book can be put. (Aside—I am thinking of the non-fictional alone.) The following are the chief uses to which a book may be adapted. I have not attempted to make the classification exhaustive, though it may very well happen to be so:—

- (1) The ordinary informational use. This needs no specific mention.
- (2) Books meant for study, and teaching. Such books are not only written in a style suitable for teaching work, but contain questions, hints, further reading suggestions, etc., useful to the students.
- (3) Practical manuals. These are books containing bare suggestions for use in practice. Books of formulæ, recipes, etc., are examples.
- (4) Books which are meant mainly or solely to introduce the readers to further material in the subject, with exact valuation of the items. Reading courses are examples of this type of books.
- (5) Fifthly, there are some subjects which admit of controversies of pro and con. Most religious, ethical, social and political subjects are of this nature. In books dealing with such subjects it is necessary to indicate the view-point of a book, whether, the book advocates the “for” or the “against.” Debate

manuals should be particularly mentioned, and schools, colleges and university libraries should keep debate bibliographies of all living topics.

- (6) Lastly, there are books which work within a framework of time. They pertain to the progress of a subject during a particular portion of time. Year books are the most important of this class, and require to be specially mentioned in bibliographies.

The third kind of information which a useful bibliography should give is the indication of the matter of the book. A most valuable development in the preparation of such bibliographies is the publication of Abstracts of contents of journals and books. Chemical Abstracts is the best of them, and costs something like three lacs of rupees annually.

The paradise of a reference librarian is that place where every conceivable subject has such a full and critical bibliography as described above, arranged neatly, in its proper place. For while isolated fact—finding like the cross-word puzzle clue-finding, affords the excitement which children derive from hunting butterflies, the highest fulfilment of a reference librarian's function in civilization is attained when he has provided his client, a serious research worker with an up-to-date, complete, comprehensive and critical bibliography of the subject of his research. We will not speak of our own country, but in Europe and America, governments, societies and even individuals of wealth and culture are spending vast sums annually on the preparation of such bibliographies.

The three separate tools that we have hurriedly surveyed so far, if properly fashioned and used, can attain for us mastery of the macrocosm of knowledge. But the concrete setting of all this knowledge is yet to be negotiated. Knowledge or practice of a subject exists not in vacuo, but there are definite persons and institutions in definite places in and through which all this knowledge and practice has its being. Certain places, we are told, are inhabited by human beings, but sometimes we want to know who actually are these human beings living in these places.

There is, we are told, a regular shipping between Bombay and London, but what ships, what firms, are involved in this traffic? There must be some books to introduce us to these proper nouns. Such books dealing with proper nouns are called Directories.

From this theory of directories we can see that there can be a directory corresponding to every branch of knowledge. Take, for example, Philosophy. A book which gives us the name of persons engaged in the teaching of philosophy propagation or of institutions engaged in the teaching and propagation of philosophy, etc., will be a directory.

Mostly these directories deal with proper names in a restricted region, trade or profession. While still on the subject of directories I will quote from Wyer, "Directories," he says, "illustrate perhaps better than any other group the pure 'tool' in book form which is no true book—indispensable for a day, nearly useless tomorrow, little more than dry, juiceless husks, devoid of nourishment, or permanent worth....."

The four types of reference tools that we have described so far give the reference librarian a mastery over all the appalling prolificity of printed matter, but his task is not yet complete. He has told his client what wares exist, but he is required also to deliver the goods. It is not merely sufficient to tell a reader that such and such a book exists if the reader is unable to lay his hands on the book. An ounce of catalogue is worth more than a ton of bibliography; for it is only through the catalogues that the reference librarian can direct his readers to existing books. Catalogues are in a sense book-directories.

The science and practice of cataloguing has developed powerfully in the last decade or so in the Western countries. All this has happened through co-operation and the centralisation which co-operation entails. To-day an English reader can obtain any book in print. The reference librarian is so well-equipped with catalogues, that of his own library, of his own region, of the National library, and beyond, that he can tell his reader that the book he wants is in such and such a library and the system of library co-operation does the rest.

We of India are as yet far from this, but the star shines to which we have hitched our wagons, and our perseverance is bound to bear fruit.

We have so far talked of the pure tools of a reference librarian. But there are other tools still, which though not pure, yet stand the reference librarian in good stead, sometimes in amazingly good stead, only if he knows them well.

These tools contain elements from all the pure tools enumerated above, and their *raison d'être*, is their utility—they are not ingredients but dishes with their own individuality.

The most important of these tools is the Almanac. An Almanac deals with all sorts of subject. Some of the year books also rate utility higher than system, and pursue the diversity and variety characteristic of almanacs.

The second tool that I will mention in this connection is the reference librarian's own desk book, wherein he keeps a record of questions which he had to tackle and the answers he found to them.

We have thus runningly surveyed the whole variety of tools handy to the reference librarian in his service to his community. Dictionaries tackle the subject superficially, and encyclopædias represent the whole field of knowledge microcosmically. But they also clear the way to the macrocosm, the vastness of which is explored as effectively as availing bibliographies permit. We surveyed the variety in the nature and development of these bibliographies, and went on to speak of the directories which tell us of the proper nouns. Then, we found that catalogues were necessary to deliver the goods. Beyond these tools we had other improvisations—the miscellaneous information hand-books, almanacs, 'enquire within,' and the reference librarian's own practically tested desk-books. We now leave the reference librarian with these tools, so that he may learn their value and use by using them.

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## A SURVEY OF LIBRARY ASSOCIATIONS IN INDIA

By

P. KONDA REDDY,

*Andhra University Library.*

Owing to the phenomenal growth of library associations all over India during the last quarter of a century, it has become necessary to take stock of the immense work that is being carried out in the field of library work. I have attempted in this survey to give the general reader, interested in the promotion of knowledge through libraries, a bird's-eye view of the vast improvements taking place in this direction. This survey, being the first of its kind, is, I know, bound to be incomplete and unsatisfactory in many respects. It has not been possible to collect all the information owing, in some cases, to the lack of response from the library authorities concerned, and in others, to the paucity of literature on the subject. I have gathered as much of the information as I could, and hope to be able to compile a more complete account at a future date, with better co-operation from the library associations. At the end of the article will be found in a tabular form, main facts regarding the constitution, functions, and organization of these various associations. In the lines that follow, I would like to draw the reader's attention to some of the outstanding features of these associations.

### I. Rural Library Organization.

The Baroda State may be said to be the pioneer in the Library Movement of our country, which enjoys a unique position, as the movement there is aided by the State in every possible manner. Free and compulsory Education was introduced in 1910 and several Rural libraries have been established since 1914. There is a separate Library Department intended for the organization of libraries in the State. The Department comprises of two divisions: the Central Library under a Curator; and the county division under an Assistant Curator. The State Library Association co-operates with the library department and organizes the Rural libraries all over the State. Besides State aid,



it has wide popular support. The Association has appointed 20 honorary and 5 paid organizers for propaganda and inspection work. The Association conducts a "Library-day" on "Vasantha Panchami", when all the libraries in the State hold processions, exhibitions, public meetings and sports, and collect donations for the libraries. In 1938-39 the Association inspected about 1,50,665 libraries and reading rooms.<sup>1</sup> There is found in each village a well-equipped library.

Next to Baroda comes the Andhra Desa Library Association in the matter of the organization of Rural libraries. Since it does not enjoy any aid from the Government, but depends entirely on public benefactions, its progress has been rather slow. This Association is carrying on propaganda work to a great extent by arranging library pilgrimage parties which consist of 6 sections: the advance party, Bhajana party, exhibition party, singing party, lecturing party and the magic lantern party. The Association is also conducting night schools in villages of Andhra Desa. Through its efforts nearly 800 libraries have been established throughout Andhra Desa.<sup>2</sup>

The Madras Library Association, which has started Rural Library Service centres in mofussil areas, also deserves special mention. It does propaganda work by conducting intensive tours and lectures in the districts.

The United Provinces Library Association, though recently established, is doing some work in the organization of rural libraries in its jurisdiction. The Provincial Government itself has undertaken a comprehensive educational expansion scheme by providing rural libraries. So far, 3,600 reading rooms and 750 circulating libraries have been provided, and 292 new libraries are under contemplation.

<sup>1</sup> The Report of the Library Department of Baroda State for the year 1938-39.

<sup>2</sup> Report of the Andhra Desa Library Association for the year 1938-39.

## II. Library Legislation.

In the matter of working for library legislation, the Madras Library Association must be given a prominent place. Rao Saheb S. R. Ranganathan, the Secretary of the Association, is responsible for drawing up a public library bill suited to the present conditions. A Model Library Act has also been published by the Association. A deputation waited on the Government on behalf of the Association on the 27th August, 1938, but the introduction of prohibition, debt relief and reform of land tenure came in the way of Government's taking up this question.

The Andhra Desa Library Association took steps as early as 1914 and a resolution for the library grants was moved in the Madras Legislative Council; and as a result of its endeavours, library grants for libraries were sanctioned from the local boards by the Madras Legislative Council, in the same year.

The President of the Bengal Library Association and Khan Bahadur K. M. Asadullah, Secretary of the Indian Library Association, worked hard for introducing the Public Library Bill in the Bengal Legislative Council. While delivering the presidential address at the 9th All-India Public Library Conference held at Madras on December, 1934, Mr. Munindra Deb Rai Mahasai, the President of the Bengal Library Association, said, "In Bengal I tried to introduce a Public Library Bill. It failed to receive the Governor's assent for its introduction. Although I could not succeed in my attempt to have a library legislation for my Province yet we succeeded in carrying much needed amendments in the Bengal Local Self-Government Act, Bengal Village Self-Government Act and the Bengal Municipal Act with a view to provide for grants-in-aid to libraries by District Boards, Union Boards and Municipalities".

The Maharashtra Library Association has secured some grants for the libraries from the District Boards and Municipalities. The association took steps to introduce library legislation in 1937 but failed in its attempt. It has not given up its efforts and it is gratifying to note that the Bombay Public Library Bill is still before the Government.

The Assam Library Association, which was established about a year ago, is contemplating legislation enjoining upon municipalities to run public libraries of their own. As library legislation is a rather important piece of legislation, the Indian Library Association must give proper guidance to the provinces where attempts are made in this direction, as early as possible.

### III. Library Training.

The question of professional library training deserves greater and more careful attention at the hands of various associations than it is receiving at the present moment.

The Punjab University was the first to take steps in this respect, in 1914. The Library School of the Punjab University was founded by Mr. A. D. Dickenson, an American Librarian, who was appointed to reorganise the University Library of the Punjab. Through the efforts of the Punjab Library Association the syllabus of the course has been revised recently.<sup>3</sup> The Madras University followed the lead thus given and summer courses were conducted from 1929 and ran successfully till 1938. Nearly 250 teachers and 130 librarians received systematic training in this manner. From 1938, the Diploma in Librarianship has been instituted and is running successfully under the directorship of Dr. M. O. Thomas. The Andhra University conducted a summer course and a regular diploma course of one academic year from 1934 to 1937. The authorities of the University deemed it unnecessary to continue it, as facilities were available in Madras and stopped these courses from 1938. But, it is understood that the University is thinking of reviving the summer courses.

The Andhra Desa Library Association has also taken a prominent part in the promotion of library training. An Adult Education Training School was opened in the summer of 1920 and 20 people were trained. A summer school of Librarianship was also conducted under its auspices in 1934 and 32 students

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<sup>3</sup> "The Modern Librarian" Vol. X, No. 2, page 94.

were trained. The Association is now contemplating to organise training classes next summer.

The Bengal Library Association is conducting summer classes and four such courses in Library training have been held, so far. The course lasts for nearly six weeks and admission is restricted generally to library employees. "We are glad to find that for the first time in the history of training in librarianship in India, four Bengali girls have been admitted to the fourth summer course of training conducted by the Bengal Library Association. We congratulate the Association for taking this noble and enviable step."<sup>4</sup>

It is also significant that the Government of India is providing library training in the Imperial Library, Calcutta, under the able directorship of Khan Bahadur K. M. Asadullah. "Regular classes for imparting training in librarianship are held every alternate year in the Imperial Library and four such classes have been conducted so far. Admission is open to persons from all parts of India, including Indian States and the training extends over a period of not less than 6 months. The number of students is restricted to 20 and preference in the matter of admission is given to those who are already working in libraries."<sup>5</sup>

It will be a great advantage if all the Provincial Governments start these library training courses at their University centres and the Indian Library Association should offer guidance in the matter of their proper organization and providing of suitable syllabuses for the course. The Indian Library Association has appointed a Committee with Dr. M. O. Thomas as Chairman to examine the curriculum of library training centres with a view to achieving standardization and uniformity in library training. It may, however, be suggested that the Association may take immediate steps to arrange professional training in all the provinces by conducting examinations privately at different centres and to

<sup>4</sup> "The Modern Librarian"—Editorial. Vol. X, No. 3, page 145,

<sup>5</sup> *Ibid*, Vol. X, No. 2,

award certificates and diplomas as is done by the British Library Association. To achieve this object, a number of correspondence courses in the various branches of library science have to be devised.

#### IV. Adult Illiteracy.

In regard to adult illiteracy, we find that not many associations have taken the necessary steps to organise the training of teachers for the purpose. Only Baroda has come forward in this matter by providing 46 district and town libraries, 1,200 village libraries, thousands of reading rooms and circulating libraries serving 82·6 per cent of the population. The Andhra Desa Library Association is also helping in driving out illiteracy by opening several reading rooms and conducting night schools in villages. Out of all the library associations, the United Provinces Library Association is taking keen interest and is co-operating with the Provincial Government, which has launched a comprehensive education scheme for the liquidation of adult illiteracy. The scheme has provided 3,600 reading rooms with 750 circulating libraries, and 292 new libraries are to be opened in the year 1940-41. The Assam Provincial Library Association is conducting an adult literacy campaign. The Association has surveyed the field and prepared statistics of the illiterate adults in the province. It is also understood that in Bihar the mass literacy campaign was started in April, 1938. The Government has sanctioned Rs. 22,000 for starting 3,800 Hindustani and 200 Bengali village libraries in the Province. About 60% of these village libraries are supplied with newspapers and weekly journals. The Bihar Library Association is taking an active part in this direction.

The Madras Library Association with its abundant enthusiasm and resources will do well to undertake work for the noble purpose of carrying enlightenment to the rural areas. This Association is publishing a hand-book of Adult Education this year which is expected to be of great help to the rural folk as it deals with rural sanitation, education, etc.

The Union catalogue of scientific periodicals of important libraries in India that is under compilation by the Indian Library Association, deserves the hearty support of all the library associations in the country. It would satisfy the growing interest among the educated classes for study and research of scientific problems. A huge union catalogue of books in the bigger libraries in the country, is for the present a mere dream, but if the attempts now being made bear fruit, it is not impossible to achieve success in the other field also, provided the provincial library associations accord their full and sympathetic co-operation and active support in the matter. The inter-lending of books contemplated by the Indian Library Association will be fully facilitated only after its publication.

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The writer is greatly indebted to Khan Bahadur K. M. Asadullah, Librarian, Imperial Library, and Hony. General Secretary, Indian Library Association, and also to the Secretaries of the library associations who furnished him with information.

## ANNEXURE.

**A brief classified account of the important Library Associations in India.**

The following are the important heads under which information is listed :—

- (1) Date of establishment and registration.
- (2) Aims and objects of the association.
- (3) Membership and subscriptions.
- (4) Meetings and conferences.
- (5) Funds and endowments of the association.
- (6) Organisation : branches and affiliated associations.
- (7) Publications.
- (8) Official address.

**I. The Andhra Desa Library Association.<sup>1</sup>**

(1) 10th April 1914. Regd. under Act XXI of 1860 in 1924. (2) To spread the public library movement and to organise it on sound and workable basis. (3) Individual members 65 and institutional 68. (4) General body meetings every year, ordinary meetings frequently. Nearly 20 conferences organised so far. (5) Membership fees and some endowments. (6) Formation of district and taluk associations. 3 district, 4 taluk and one town association affiliated to the central association. (7) In 1915 published "Granthalaya Sarvaswam", a Telegu magazine—"Dharma Grandhalya" also published for some time. From 1939 "Andra Granthalayam", a bi-lingual quarterly, is being published. The "Andhra Desa Library Directory" and yearly reports are also published. (8) P. Nagabhushanama, Patamatalanka, (vi.) Bezwada.

**II. The Maharashtra Library Association.<sup>2</sup>**

(1) June 1921. Regd. under Act XXI of 1860. (2) To spread the movement of public libraries and reading rooms by starting new ones ; to institute a Model free library and reading

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<sup>1</sup> As per the Association Report for the year 1938-39.

<sup>2</sup> As per the Association Report for the year 1938-39.

room for Maharashtra ; to carry on educative propaganda in general and to make endeavours for attaining the objects of the resolutions passed in various conferences. (3) Patrons Rs. 100, donors Rs. 25, subscribers Rs. 5 to Rs. 10 and ordinary members Re. 1. There are 145 library institutions paying Re. 1 per year. (4) Two conferences held in 1921 and in 1928. Public meetings held at intervals. (5) Funds realised by way of subscriptions from the members and library institutions. (6) About 150 reading rooms and libraries have been organised so far and these are affiliated with the association. (7) Reports in vernacular from time to time are printed and distributed to the public. Circulars and questionnaires are issued now and then. (8) D. W. Joshi, B.A., L.T., 64, Hindu Colony, Dadar, Bombay.

### III. State Library Association, Baroda.<sup>3</sup>

(1) 1924. (2) To co-operate with the State library department and help in all matters such as the development and improvement of libraries. (a) to act as connecting link between the library department and the people of the State and thus to promote co-operation for the furtherance of the movement, (b) to improve old libraries and to open new ones so that no town or village may remain without a free public library, (c) to train librarians in the proper discharge of their duties, (d) to encourage the formation of home-study and reading circles, (e) to form district, taluka and sub-taluka associations. (3) Three classes of members, patrons, Rs. 250, life members Rs. 25 and ordinary members Rs. 3. District, town and village libraries and reading rooms pay Rs. 5, 3 and 1 respectively. (4) Organized several conferences through the Mahal Association. (5) Fees from members, annual grant of Rs. 1,000 from the Government and about Rs. 1,000 to be collectively contributed by the district boards in the State. (6) A library co-operative society "Pustakalaya Sahayak Sahakari Mandal, Ltd.," established to help libraries in the purchase of books and periodicals at concession rates from publishers. 4 district, 39 taluka and sub-taluka library associations working under the Central State

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<sup>3</sup> As per the Report of the State Library Deptl. for 1938-39.



Library Association. (7) The library department published so far 18 books on the history of libraries, and 9 reports of the Baroda Library Department :—

(i) Baroda and its libraries	by N. M. Dutt	(1928)
(ii) Scheme of classification	„ T. D. Wakins	(1935)
(iii) Anatomy of books	„ Do. „	(1935)
(iv) Rural libraries	„ Diwarji, N. C.	(1935)
(v) Travelling libraries	„ Wakins & Trivedi, P. A.	(1935)
(vi) Central library	„ Rangnekar, K. M.	(1935)
(vii) Pathology of books	„ Parlikar, P. K.	(1935)
(viii) Guide to book exhibition	„ Wakins, T. D.	(1935)
(ix) Children's section	„ Prabhudesai, Mrs. A. P.	(1935)
(x) Baroda authors	„ Dewaskar & Trivedi	(1935)
(xi) A Survey of the Library Departments' Work during the last quarter of a century	„ Wakins, T. D.	(1936)
(xii) Foreign libraries	„ „	(1937)
(xiii) Souvenir of a visit to Baroda libraries	„ Wakins, T. D.	(1938)

4 books in Gujarati and several pamphlets published. A library magazine "Pustakalaya" in which reviews of books, reports of conferences and meetings, departmental circulars, selections from speeches and articles are published. All State-aided libraries subscribe. (8) Chairman : G. H. Desai, Central Library, Baroda.

#### IV. Bengal Library Association <sup>4</sup>

(1) 1926. Regd. under Act XXI of 1860. (2) (a) To impress upon the University, College and School authorities the necessity of maintaining well-equipped libraries on modern lines managed by trained and efficient librarians, (b) to impress upon the Government to have a library act on the statute book, (c) to organise a number of municipal and rural libraries. (3) 155 members (in 1937). (4) number of meetings held. Celebrated Calcutta Library Centenary on 15th December, 1935. (5) Fees from members and affiliated institutions. (6) Organised an association for Calcutta with six branches in different places.

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<sup>4</sup> As per "The Modern Librarian" and the Br. "Library Association Record."

Arrangements are being made to organise branches in 12 more districts. (7) Directory of libraries affiliated to the association published. Publishing a bulletin since 1987. (8) Office: Central Library, Calcutta University.

### V. The Madras Library Association.<sup>5</sup>

(1) 31st January 1928. Regd. under Act XXI of 1860. (2) "to bring a new orientation in the library idea by better organization and administration of libraries and their increase in number in the City and in the Presidency, by stimulation of adult education and liquidation of illiteracy." (3) 2 patrons, 40 donors, 297 life members, 80 institution members, 191 ordinary members, total members by 1939—610. (4) General body meets annually. Ordinary meetings are frequently held. Tamil lovers' conference convened. (5) Subscription of members, corporation grant, sale of books and some donations. By 1939 the total income Rs. 12,623-7-9. (6) Among district and taluk associations rural library service centres formed. The association co-operates with "South Indian Teachers' Union" and and "South Indian Adult Education Conference." (7) (a) "Everything about something series: 'Important constitutions of the world' " by Mr. N. R. Subbiar, published. 'Wonders of electricity' is the next publication under this series. (b) "Bibliographical series": 16 books published. (c) "Report series": 11 annual reports published. (d) "Publication series": 8 books on library science published:—

(i) Library Movement by Diverse hands		(1929)
(ii) Five Laws of Library Science	by S. R. Ranganathan	(1931)
(iii) Colon Classification	" "	(1933)
(iv) Classified Catalogue Code	" "	(1934)
(v) Library Administration	" "	(1935)
(vi) Prolegomena to Library Classification	" "	(1937)
(vii) Theory of Library Catalogue	" "	(1938)
(viii) Colon Classification, Edn. 2	" "	(1939)

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<sup>5</sup> Annual Report of the Association (Eleventh), 1939.

(e) "Legislative series": 2 books published. (f) "Popular lectures series" in Tamil: 15 books. (g) Memoirs: is being published. (8) Secretary: Rao Saheb S. R. Ranganathan, M.A., L.T., F.L.A., Triplicane, Madras.

#### VI. The Punjab Library Association. <sup>6</sup>

(1) December, 1929. Regd. under Act XXI of 1860. (2) To further the establishment, extension and development of libraries and to make them a vital factor in the educational life of the communities they are intended to serve. (3) 75 members (1937-38). (4) Meetings held from time to time in Lahore and conferences organised. (5) Fees realized from members and some donations from certain persons. (6) Co-operation with librarians, members of library committees, representatives of various public, college and school libraries. (7) From November 1930 is issuing a library journal "The Modern Librarian" (A monthly, now a quarterly). (8) Secretary: B. L. Bharadwaja, Librarian, Sanatan Dharma College, Lahore.

#### VII. The Government of India Libraries Association, New Delhi. <sup>7</sup>

(1) May, 1933. (2) To unite all persons working in the libraries of the Government into one body; to improve their conditions of service and their professional equipment by arranging for lectures on technical matters. (3) In 1940 the association had a membership of 15 belonging to the departmental libraries of the Government of India. (4) Several meetings held and many lectures for popularizing the movement organised. An All-India Library Conference was held in 1938 under the joint auspices of the Delhi University Library and Government of India Libraries Association. (5) The association depends upon membership fee. (6) Best co-operation is maintained with the following departmental libraries of the Government of India

<sup>6</sup> From the publications in "The Modern Librarian,"

<sup>7</sup> As per Secretary's statement.

(i) Imperial Secretariat Library, (ii) Library of the Indian Legislature. (iii) Imperial Agriculture Institute, (iv) Commerce Department, (v) Army Headquarters Central Library, (vi) Director-General, Indian Medical Service Library, (vii) Indian Stores Department Library, (viii) Library of the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research, (ix) Posts and Telegraphs Department Library, (x) Central Advisory Board of Education (xi) Railway Board. (8) Hon. Secretary, B. L. Srivastava, Librarian, Central Advisory Board of Education, New Delhi.

#### VIII. Indian Library Association. <sup>8</sup>

(1) 13th September, 1933. Regd. under Act XXI of 1860. (2) (a) The furtherance of the library movement in India, (b) the promotion of the training of librarians, and (c) the improvement of the status of librarians. (3) 7 classes, (i) patrons, a gift of a minimum value of Rs. 2,000, (ii) donors, minimum value of Rs. 200, (iii) life members, Rs. 50, (iv) members, Rs. 5, (v) libraries Rs. 25, (vi) affiliated associations a sum equal to 10% of their subscription income, (vii) subscribing institutions Rs. 50. As per 1939-40 individual members 55, life members 4, affiliated associations 5, libraries 15, total 79. (4) Meetings held at the time of conferences. So far four conferences organised. These conferences organised generally once in two years. The 1st conference in September 1933, Calcutta, the 2nd in Easter 1935, Lucknow, the 3rd in Christmas in 1937, Delhi and the 4th in Easter 1940, Patna. Delegates attend from all provinces and States. (5) Subscriptions and gifts. Income from investments. Profits from sale of publications. On 31st March 1939 the total income was Rs. 4,153. (6) Five affiliated associations (1940). (7) (i) Making arrangements for compiling a union catalogue of scientific periodicals in important libraries in India. (ii) Reports on the working of the association. (iii) Proceedings of the conferences. (iv) A directory of libraries in India published, 1938. (v) Publication of descriptive accounts of certain libraries in

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<sup>8</sup> As per the three reports published on the working of the I. L. A.

"The Modern Librarian." (vi) Thinking of publishing some books. (8) Hon. General Secretary, Khan Bahadur, K. M. Asadullah, B.A., F.L.A., Imperial Library, Calcutta.

#### IX. The Assam Provincial Library Association.<sup>9</sup>

(1) 26th January, 1939. (2) (a) to combat adult illiteracy problem and to help the village reconstruction work, (b) to bring all the existing libraries of the province under this association. (c) to call for library conferences in different parts of the province, (d) to see that modern education is imparted to workers and (e) to submit a comprehensive scheme to the Government with a view to having a net-work of libraries like primary schools throughout the province. (3) Only 10 members paying a subscription of four annas a year (1939-40). (4) Three meetings held so far but no conferences organised as yet. (5) No other funds except the membership fee. (6) Adult literacy sub-committee and a board under it appointed. The board prepares suitable books for the adults. An information bureau sub-committee has also been established and this supplies information for employment, immigration, vocational education and cottage industries. (7) The information bureau sub-committee of the association publishes pamphlets of information. Steps are being taken by the association to publish books, etc. (8) Founder and the organizing secretary, Raj Kumar Bhattacharjee, B.A., Shillong.

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<sup>9</sup> As given in a statement by the Secretary of the Association.

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## HOW WE BUILT UP OUR COLLEGE LIBRARY?

*By*

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### I. Preliminary.

The Shikshana Prasarak Mandali (Society for Propagating Education) came into being in the year 1883. They wanted to start a new Marathi School in memory of the late Vishnushastri Chiploonkar, the distinguished writer and pioneer of national education in Bombay Presidency. A body of three or four primary teachers was formed and they commenced teaching Marathi classes and prepared students for the Vernacular Final Examination. The growth of the school was so rapid that in a few years they felt the necessity of starting an English High School of their own. A band of university graduates and undergraduates inspired by a spirit of self-sacrifice came forward and the Vernacular school was turned into an Anglo-Vernacular one. Before long, they made it a full-fledged High School with an exceptional reputation for efficient teaching and competent administration. In the year 1916, the moment was ripe for starting a new college, the existing accommodation in Fergusson College being woefully inadequate. Our Mandali (Society) undertook the task and they could secure the co-operation of other colleges with a sacrificing spirit which ensured the success of their undertaking. The college began its work in 1916.

### II. Beginnings.

A college must have a library. A college without a library is a bird without wings. A start was made in this direction by the late Haribhau Apte, our renowned novelist. He gave his own collection as a gift and there came forward another veteran, Dr. V. S. Ghate, an old alumnus of the school who also offered to the college library a good many Sanskrit books. It was a promising start; but there was the question of the upkeep of the library. So, during the first six years the college spent nearly

Rs. 23,000 on purchasing new books with a view to keeping the professors in touch with up-to-date knowledge of English literature, History, Politics and other subjects. The library was then in charge of one of the office clerks who did the work during his leisure hours. He was unable to differentiate between the various departments of literature. The natural result was that the administration of the library became unsatisfactory and the necessity of having an experienced librarian was felt keenly. They found in the writer of the paper the sort of person who could undertake this task. I was given thus charge of the library in the year 1922, as I had six years' experience of the work in the Fergusson College Library previous to my appointment in the New Poona College, now Sir Parashurambhan College.'

### III. The Rapid Development.

After this, the library was overhauled by Principal N. M. Shah with the help of Professor Sabnis and his other colleagues during the three months, summer vacation. It was arranged according to Principal Shah's ideas. The amount that was spent on the purchase of books increased day by day and it was not long before our library could compete on equal terms with any of the then existing college libraries in Poona. The special feature of our library was the Mathematics Section which was developed by Principal Shah in the best way possible. When I took charge of the library it contained 5,000 volumes, while by the end of 1930 the number rose to 17,000. The college also became a first grade college during this period. With this, the teaching of science began and with the opening of the science classes, books on scientific subjects such as Physics, Chemistry and Biology had to be added to the library.

### IV. The Study-room.

The necessity of allowing the use of books to students outside college hours was keenly felt and the study-room was started in 1931, by Principal Sabnis, the then Principal of the college. The study-room was kept open henceforth from early hours in the

morning till late hours at night. Students began to realize quickly the benefit of this new experiment. The total amount spent on purchasing books from 1916 comes to Rs. 69,000 upto the year 1931-32. This amount does not include the payment to workers in the library. Part of it was spent in subscribing to various journals, educational and literary. Ours is the practice, common enough elsewhere, to bind successive numbers of the journals in book form year after year.

### V. The Final Stage.

As mentioned above, Principal Sabnis started the study-room system to help students to read quietly outside college hours and ever since its inception it has been giving complete satisfaction to all parties—students and professors alike. The total number of volumes in the library has gone up to 36,000, including students' special library books. At the moment of writing this paper the money spent on them amounts to Rs. 1,29,000. Such a quick development as this is rarely to be met with elsewhere. Of course, I write open to correction.

At present the study-room contains some 2,000 volumes which are entirely at the disposal of the students and in several cases more than one copy of important books which were purchased as the demand for them increased, from time to time. The Professors do the tutorial duties, such as pointing out to students the right sort of books and how to read them.

During the last ten years we have received nearly a thousand or more volumes from the well-wishers of the society as free gifts. Most of these books are valuable additions to our college collection. We have not quite escaped the danger of loss of books by theft. All the same, we have kept down the number of losses as far as possible. The library is a growing organism. Ours is not an exception to the rule. It has become necessary, therefore, to restrain the unruly activities of the students and make the library serve its chief end which is to help students to read quietly and improve their minds.



I have not mentioned anything, so far, about the additions to the staff of our library. Earlier I was the only person in charge of the library and I had to look after everything. Later I was given an assistant. But the work soon outgrew the capacity of two men. When the study-room was thrown open to students from 8 A.M. to 10 P.M. fresh additions had to be made to the staff. The result is that there are six of us working in the library at the present moment.

Of these six persons, one looks to the numbering, accessioning and making of the index slips. He also looks after the accounts of the library. The second has the duty of issuing and receiving books, while the third performs miscellaneous duties such as typing notices, making lists of books from time to time, arranging the index slips in alphabetical order and inserting written cards in their proper places. The remaining three library assistants are solely in charge of the study-room. Finally there are three peons, who take books to professors' lodgings and bring them back whenever necessary. They also circulate the library notices, among the members of the staff and get their signatures on the borrowing slips and on the bills of books which they have purchased for the library, make payments of bills from time to time and do sundry other duties.

This is the routine when the college is open for tuition purposes—nearly eight months in a year. When the vacations commence, we have other duties to perform. We must recover loans of books from professors, students and general readers. We have to take an annual inventory which serves as a guide for next year's work. There are other minor duties to be done during these two annual vacations, such as the numbering of the books which might have remained in arrears. This smoothes the way for the next year's work.

To stick to the theory of administration, word by word, is in my opinion an arduous task, which is also the opinion of many of my fellow-librarians. Here, as elsewhere, practical knowledge counts more than theory. To alter a little the common

saying, an ounce of practical experience is worth a ton of theory. A man may not be well up in theory, but he does his work competently, if he has some practical experience. Here in this library we are not academically a highly qualified staff. But we manage to "put it over" as they say. We give satisfaction to our professors and students. As I look back over the rapid development of our library, it seems to me little short of a wonderful fairy palace that has risen out of nothing.

This is all that I have to say about the work that I have been doing along with my five fellow-workers. It is not that our work is without defects; but we try our best to remove those defects whenever they are pointed out to us. Indeed we are grateful when our drawbacks are pointed out to us and we do our best to get round them.

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**THE LATE G. R. KAYE  
AND  
THE SIMLA SECRETARIAT LIBRARY.**

*By*

R. GOPALAN,

*Secretariat Library, New Delhi.*

It is not so well known that with the closing down of the Imperial Secretariat Library at Simla in 1936 a very remarkable service in books and information ended in that hill station. This library was housed in the Gorton Castle and has had a fine career for nearly 35 years, first as the Central Library of the Home Department, latterly as the Library of the Bureau of Education and subsequently known as Imperial Secretariat Library. Though mainly intended for the use of the officials of the Secretariat of the Government of India it has been of immense service also to the members of the old Imperial Legislative Council, latterly the Legislative Assembly, the Council of State, the Royal Commissions and the ever so many Committees appointed from time to time by the Government of India as also to educationists and research workers in different fields.

Starting with a small collection of Gazettes, Civil Lists, History, Science, etc., towards the beginning of the present century it gradually gathered strength until at the time of its transfer to Delhi it numbered nearly 100,000 volumes. The library fell at an early period into the hands of a remarkable personality, the late G. R. Kaye, who was at once a Mathematician Scholar, Librarian and was Curator to the Bureau of Education and whose untiring zeal and enthusiasm converted it into a very useful institution between the years 1913 to 1923. Not only considerable improvements were effected in shelf accommodation, filing, etc., but the late Mr. Kaye realised the value, even in those days, of a fully classified catalogue for the collection of books and with his wonderful powers of dealing with books and miscellaneous papers evolved in consultation with the late R. S. M. N. Basu a scheme of classification which has served fairly well for nearly 25 years till recently replaced by another system (Dewey's Decimal

Classification). It would not be out of place here to give a very brief sketch of the career of the late G. R. Kaye and the salient features of his classification which is not known to many librarians outside the Government of India.

The late G. R. Kaye was born in Leicester in 1866 and educated at St. Mark's College, Chelsea. He first went to India to take a mastership at Bishop Cotton School, Simla, and was subsequently appointed Head Master of the Boys' High School, Allahabad and afterwards Bombay. From there he went to Lucknow as Vice-Principal, Government Training College, again in 1903 in a similar capacity to Allahabad. Shortly afterwards he was transferred to the Bureau of Education in Simla where he was first Assistant to D. G. of Education, then Assistant Secretary and later Curator till he retired in 1923. Here began the series of publications associated with Kaye on *Indian Mathematics* and *Astronomy* which constituted his life's work. Prominent among his works are *Indian Mathematics*, Calcutta 1915. *Astronomical Observatories of Jai Singh*, "A guide to the old observatories at Delhi," Jaipur, Ujjain, Benares in 1921, "Astronomical Instruments in the Delhi Museum," "Hindu Astronomy." In 1924 was published his Index to the Annual Reports of the Director-General of Archaeology in India 1902-1916. His services were recognised when he received a Kaiser-i-Hind medal of the 1st class.

Librarians would remember that even after retirement from India in 1923, he was carrying on catalogue work of the European manuscripts preserved in the India Office Library, and that he died in the course of preparing a descriptive catalogue of these manuscripts on the 1st July, 1933, almost in the sight of the completion of his work. These volumes well-known for meticulous accuracy bear witness to his untiring industry and powers of arrangement.

In those days the stock of the Secretariat Library in addition to Books consisted of official publications which fell under

(1) those published by the Government of India,

- (2) those published by the Provincial Governments,
- (3) by H. M. S. O. (London).

Government of India publications consisted of annual reports of the several Departments comprising several hundred volumes, Acts of Legislature, Regulations, Ordinances, rules of various kinds, proceedings of Indian Legislature, scientific and research memoirs and monographs, relating to archaeology, agriculture, minerology, veterinary science, etc., trade returns, reviews and annuals, and codes of different kinds.

The Provincial Publications consisted of the Gazettes, Proceedings of Legislative Council, District Gazetteers and Manuals embodying a mass of useful data not available elsewhere. The Parliamentary and Command papers constituted a valuable mine of information and were comprised in the H. M. S. O. publications, which also included a number of Royal Commission Reports covering a wide ground, Constitutional Reforms, Labour, Currency, Police, Public Services, Agriculture, National Museums, etc.

In Kaye's Scheme of Classification books were divided into 12 classes as follows: 1. Reference books. 2. Bibliography and Libraries. 3. History. 3(a) Biography. 4. Topography and Geography. 5. Anthropology. 5(a) Art. 6. Literature. 6(a). Religion. 7. Science. 8. Economics and Politics. 9. Law. 10. Education. 11. Administration (official publications). 12. Engineering.

The Administrative heading was further subdivided into 25 divisions which include Public Services, Police, Medical, Local Self-Government, Land Revenue, Agriculture, Meteorology, Forest, Finance, Excise, Industries, Trade, Labour, Mineralogy, Fisheries, Railways, Army, Civil Aviation, etc.

In addition to the order of subjects the Scheme provides sub-heads and under each country heads. The original instruction of Mr. Kaye was that under each country head in each class and sub-class books of the same kind should be kept. But unfortunately he did not provide any order of a lower number. This defect had to be remedied in 1921 when lower numbers were

introduced. Mr. Kaye's Scheme also provides for a series of geographical numbers for various countries and towns of the world. He equipped the library also with a number of Card cabinets and got practically all the uncatalogued publications indexed according to his Scheme. In 1918 a comprehensive printed catalogue was produced and a series of sectional catalogues of the official publications which began about that time completed in 1928. Other routine work of the library was defined cut and dry and were enumerated in a booklet. These relate to purchase of books, elimination of books, accession, work, care and binding, lending methods, etc., some of which have continued even to the present time.

It would be of interest to mention here a few of the enquiries that the Imperial Secretariat Library was called upon to answer from time to time. A good number of these relate to statistics such as the total population of individual communities. More difficult questions include enquiries on information relating to constitution. Once the library was asked to furnish information relating to the powers of the Governor-General in Canada in connection with the mobilization of general militia. One question related to depreciation of reserves in Balance Sheets. Another was when was the title of C. I. E. awarded to a particular officer. Other enquires relate to rural-reconstruction of work in particular areas, geological antiquity of Simla, the climatic differences of Bangalore, Dehra Dun and Mhow, the relative difference in the incidence of taxation between British India and Indian States, the scale of pay of inferior servants in Great Britain and European countries, the conditions of award of the British Empire medals for gallantry, cost of living figures for European countries, the height of Peshawar, the contribution of Indians in Burma towards its revenue, per capita income in various countries, locusts in Arabia, basis on which members of the legislature in various countries draw their emoluments.

Obviously the library was not able to answer each and every question but in a good many cases diligent tracing has enabled the staff to answer a good many of these enquiries.

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## FUNDAMENTAL IDEAS OF A UNIVERSITY LIBRARY

By

D. SUBRAHMANYAM,  
*Assistant Librarian, Hindu University.*

Under the new conception of Liberal Education propagated in America, the place and function of the Library in the University has entirely changed. The purpose, outlook and method have brought new responsibilities to the University. The Library in the University has become a co-ordinating factor in the whole educational sphere and the centre of reading programme. The student is given an opportunity for exploration of knowledge under guidance. In short, the Library has become a place of comfort for students to live with books. The well-known dictum of Thomas Carlyle "A true University in these days is a collection of books" is becoming true in its full sense. It evinces the force of ideas which dominate the world. The same idea was very appropriately and explicitly expressed by Sir William Besant when he said, "The public library is an adult school. It is a perpetual and long continuation class. It is the greatest educational factor that we have and the Librarian is becoming our most important teacher and guide."

The Library itself is a modern University. In ancient times when printed books were rare, it was natural that scholars gathered and sat at the feet of a teacher to learn. But the insipid lectures of a modern University professor scenting midnight oil has no more enamourment and the student wants to get his inspiration from original sources.

Books are god-sent to man and the library is one of his greatest achievements. All the finest thoughts and mighty deeds of the world, the events which have changed men's minds and habits have been caused, inspired, and remembered by words, and these precious records in books are here for everybody to understand in our Library. To destroy ideas is to destroy our freedom and civilisation itself. Fortunately, ideas thrive even in persecution.

The Library has not received the attention it merits in the academic scheme of things in Indian Universities. The efficiency of a University is to be gauged more by the attention paid to the central organ Library—than to the galaxy of its professors and to the stateliness of its buildings. The Library is the heart of a University, and if it withers the whole University dies.

Now let us deal with a few of its fundamental features.

### **Importance of Research.**

“The value of the University Libraries lies not so much in the number of books possessed by them but rather in the great mass of research and reference material available” A thorough-going application of the spirit and methods of research is found effective in every field of life. Everyone is familiar with the great advances being made through scientific research in medicine, in engineering and in all applied sciences. In the natural sciences as well as in the humanistic and social sciences research has come to be regarded as one of the most important factors. Business concerns also are having research departments as a matter of course. In short, research is playing an increasing role in all aspects of life.

### **Resources of Research.**

It is an undeniable fact that the printed material for the purpose of research for a student or a professor is quite inadequate in the present condition of the Indian University libraries. The reference to books in order to learn what one's predecessors have already accomplished in a particular field in which one desires to do some original work, is absolutely necessary to save time which might be wasted in needless repetition of earlier work. As increased interest is being evinced by students in research, the University Librarians should endeavour to equip their libraries adequately with a keen insight and appreciation of the needs of research. A well equipped library is the intellectual laboratory of the University. It is a pity that while Readerships, Professorships and Demonstratorships which not only require high salaries



but also elaborate apparatus are profusely created, the Library which is the biggest intellectual laboratory of a University is not given the proper consideration and is often kept ill-nourished.

### **Research Material in Indian Universities.**

Our Indian Universities are at present vying with each other in buying rare books and periodicals at abnormal prices without due reference to their necessities and problems tackled by them, and without due reference to the neighbouring collections in the sister Universities of the same province. Due to the limited supply of the printed material in certain fields of knowledge, it is impossible for every University to endeavour to be strong in all departments of knowledge. It will be a foolhardy ideal to equip every University in a country to carry on research in physical, chemical and biological sciences and in humanistic and social sciences. A high type of research in a circumscribed field of knowledge is far superior to this mediocrity in a wide range of subjects. It will be in the interest of scholarship that Universities should limit their aspirations and undertake only particular fields of research leaving others to their neighbours.

### **Regional Type of Universities.**

Many a distinguished educationist has suggested the most commendable and feasible idea of the "Regional Type of a University". I deem that it would be better that a number of centres in India should be located by a common agreement amongst the Universities for concentration of the materials treating of highly specialised fields of knowledge. This would not only save the frittering away of finances of the different Universities but will create possibilities for the largest development of research.

It is the Inter-University Board of India that has to solve this problem by urging a co-ordination of effort and by emphasizing the need for specialisation in different fields of knowledge by different Universities. Another solution of this problem to a certain extent is the organisation of inter-library loans. This

kind of co-operation amongst the Universities will not be difficult and it is the duty of every University Librarian to urge his committee to frame rules of exchange. But the one great difficulty which everyone has to face is that of locating the materials required.

### **The value of Bibliographical knowledge in the University Libraries.**

No one can regard his education complete until he has a working knowledge of bibliography which in itself is an excellent training. The youngster from an urban or mofussil school is bewildered at the sea of books when he enters the portals of a University Library. It is quite necessary that some instruction in the use of indexes, catalogues and bibliographies and the use of books should be provided to these fresh-men. Many students will not possess that natural instinct in bibliography and research method.

As this necessitates a far wider and greater knowledge, every librarian is not capable of giving a complete course of instruction in the subject. However, it is necessary that some general instruction within the scope of the librarian should be given to the ordinary student.

But this is practicable only with the co-operation of the University authorities. One or two general lectures by the librarian or his assistant should be given at the beginning of the session on the development of the particular library, the arrangement of books, the catalogues available for consultation, the more important rules and regulations, donations of special value and any new changes of system. This kind of course provides students not only with an intimate knowledge of the library but may as well create an interest in librarianship as a career.

### **Necessity for Reference Librarians.**

In every library especially so in the University library having a number of research students, service to the 'individual reader' becomes compulsory and indispensable. Numerous

enquiries are to be attended to and answered satisfactorily. At times such enquiries take up much time and hence the necessity of a Reference Librarian. He is obliged to do much bibliographical and reference work to give as much information to the research students and professors as the Library furnishes. He must be well up in hunting sources of information and making the best use of bibliographical tools. He is expected to prepare abstracts of articles published in periodicals which are likely to be of interest to professors and research workers. He is further expected to know what the students should read; and should divert their attention to care for such books as will be helpful to them in life.

### **Importance of University qualifications in the Staff.**

As Universities grow in importance the work of the University library becomes more complex owing to the increased demands made on it. There is need for highly educated staff combined with professional training. It is regrettable that the University authorities in India have not recognised the importance of the library and its staff. A very common notion that the work is entirely of a clerical nature is to vanish. True, there is some work of this nature in every library; but the growing intellectual demands made on it are such that they require scholarship combined with professional knowledge.

Nowadays, research work is becoming very common in Universities and the ordinary educated assistant with experience, in proving quite inadequate in his qualifications to cope with the intellectual work required in the library. The extensive knowledge of bibliography and the capacity to advise readers about them, the thorough acquaintance with the books and their contents, the diligence to assess the merits of different books on the same subject and above all the study of the use of books are a few of the most important functions which the library staff of the University is required to fulfil. It will be too much to expect these qualifications from an average assistant.

### **Differentiation of grades in Library.**

It is the duty of the authorities to differentiate the functions in a library into two categories: one "the clerical grade" and the other "the Administrative grade" to do the professional librarian's work. To the latter grade only those who have graduated should be admitted, and they should be given the professional training to equip themselves for the work. As a natural sequence of higher qualifications of the administrative staff we have to consider and determine their status in regard to salary and relationship to the different members of the Faculties of the University. Lack of recognition in this direction will certainly have a detrimental effect on the healthy growth of the University and the right type of men cannot be attracted to the profession.

### **Uniformity of Library Service in Universities.**

Half a century of progress in higher education has stabilised the position of professors, lecturers, demonstrators in Universities in the matter of graded salaries to a considerable extent. But the position of a Librarian in a University has not been paid any attention and there are as many different grades of salaries as there are Universities. It is the duty of an All-India Library Conference like this to move the Government to recognise the necessity for the uniformity of grades in the library service in the Universities.

### **Departmental Libraries.**

The question of the Departmental Libraries in a University is a very perplexing one. The Departmental Libraries or the collections of books set apart to meet the requirements of different colleges, become more or less independent of the Central Library. The consolidation of book resources in a central library is indispensable for its efficiency. Knowledge in whatever sphere it is, is a unit and the very accessibility of material in a central place without the necessity of running to a number of departments for a desired publication, greatly facilitates the work of the researcher.

The overlapping of knowledge is so great that the departmental library is a distinct disadvantage, and unless there is a great duplication of books and periodicals the departmental library can never become readily accessible. This indeed means that it defeats its own end. Except the consideration of personal convenience there is no other factor which favours this separatist tendency. When the Library is in a central place not far from the Colleges of the University any kind of splitting should be absolutely avoided.

To bring the students into close relation with the Library, to develop the habit of intelligent reading in the formative period of their University career, and to equip the student with adequate and up-to-date knowledge should be the highest ideals of a University. The Librarian must think first of intelligent youngsters who have been taught only to read printed matter but not 'how to read, what to read and how to think.'

All these, of course, depend on the recognition of the Library as the foremost requisite in the regeneration of a country. Such a day should not be very far off if we bestow our attention to these problems and endeavour to solve them keeping ourselves abreast of the times.

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## APPENDIX VII.

**Resolutions adopted at the Fourth All-India Library Conference held at Patna from the 13th to the 15th April, 1940.**

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1. Resolved that this Conference places on record its deep sense of sorrow at the sad demise in February 1939, of His Highness the late Maharajah Sayaji Rao Gackwar of Baroda, a Pioneer of Library movement in India.

2. Resolved that this Conference places on record its deep sense of sorrow at the death in March 1939 of the late Mr. Motibhai N. Amin, formerly Assistant Curator of the Library Department, Baroda State, founder of the District and Travelling Libraries Scheme, Village Library movement and the Baroda State Library Association.

3. Resolved that this Conference places on record its sense of sorrow at the untimely death of Mr. Sarju Prashad, Deputy Librarian of the University Library, Allahabad, who was a member of the Indian Library Association for about the last five years, and who showed zeal and interest in the affairs of the Association.

4. Resolved that the universities, where part-time or Honorary Librarians are in charge of their libraries be requested through the Inter-University Board to abolish that system and to have whole-time and paid librarians.

5. Resolved that the Central and Provincial Governments and Indian States be requested to create Departments of Libraries for the establishment, maintenance, and extension of Library service, and to extend facilities to the public for the use of departmental libraries under their control, as far as practicable.

6. Resolved that the Indian Library Association should open an Information Bureau to collect information on all matters of interest to librarians and to supply such information on request; and all librarians be requested to co-operate with the

Bureau by sending to it any new idea or development in librarianship which they may come across.

7. Resolved that a Committee be appointed to explore the possibilities of establishing free public libraries in at least all provincial capitals; and that the Committee be authorised to frame a model Indian Libraries Act to further the cause of the free Public Library movement.

8. Resolved that this Conference, while appreciating the efforts of the Government of Bihar and of Dr. Syed Mahmud in the cause of Mass Literacy, requests the said Government to help the Bihar Library Association and further the cause of library movement in the Province by encouraging the establishment of more libraries for the new literates.

9. Resolved that this Conference requests the Government of Bihar to give due consideration and weight to the Library scheme prepared by the Bihar Library Association and to enforce the same or such part of it as may be practicable, at an early date.

10. Resolved that the affiliating universities be requested (through the Inter-University Board) to devote special attention to college libraries during the periodical inspection of colleges, and that a qualified librarian be associated with the inspection, specifically for this purpose.

11. Resolved that it is highly desirable on the part of the Indian Library Association to have an organ of its own in the form of a quarterly journal, and that for this purpose they may explore the possibility of taking over the *Modern Librarian* from its present authorities, failing which the Association may proceed with the project.

12. Resolved that this Conference recommends to the various Provincial Governments and the Provincial Library Associations the advisability of undertaking a survey of libraries in their respective provinces, or of expediting its completion where it is already in progress; and that the Provincial

Governments be further requested to render financial assistance to any Library Association, which undertakes this task, in case the Government itself is not in a position to arrange for the survey.

13. Resolved that this Conference impresses upon the Central and Provincial Governments the necessity of providing one library in each province with the apparatus for taking photographic copies of Mss., and of rare and out-of-print books available in libraries and with private individuals, with a view to promoting the cause of learning.

14. Resolved that the compilation of lists of books published in various Indian languages which could usefully be translated into any other Indian languages be undertaken, with a view to promoting better understanding between the various provinces of India.

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## APPENDIX VIII.

## PATNA AND ITS LIBRARIES.

*By*

DR. BIMANBEHARI MAJUMDAR.

**Ancient Pataliputra.**

Patna occupies the same place in the history of Indian culture and civilization as was occupied by Athens in the history of Greece. The cultural life of Athens extended barely over two centuries, while Patna continued to bear the torch of learning for more than a thousand years. The political importance of Patna can be compared to that of Rome. As the Western world was for the first time united under one common political authority by the efforts of the citizens of Rome, so was the first great empire of India established under the hegemony of Pataliputra. If Rome is the Eternal City of the West, Patna is the Immortal City of the East. Patna has suffered from political disasters, internal dissensions, and natural calamities from age to age, but it has never been completely deserted and destroyed. Nineveh, Alexandria, Pompeii, Vaisali, Sravasti, Kausambi, Gaura and a thousand other ancient cities are in ruins, but Patna is looking forward to a future, which will recall the glories of the Mauryan capital.

Patna or Pataliputra was the second capital of Magadha, the first being Rajgriha or Rajgir. In the Vedic age, at the time of Visvamitra, the land of Magadha was inhabited by the Kikatas and their king was called Pra-maganda (Rv. iii, 53, 14). The Kikatas according to Weber (*Indian Studies*, 1, p. 186) belonged to the Aryan race, spoke the Aryan language, but did not perform the religious sacrifices in the orthodox fashion. Hence Visvamitra addressed the following hymn to Indra :—

“What do the cows do for thee, amongst the Kikatas (O Indra)! They yield no milk for mixing with Soma, they make no Gharma-drink hot. Do bring us the property of Pra-maganda, subject to us Naicasakha, O thou rich in gifts.” Sayana explains the word *Naicasakha* as the name of a city, associated with a tree. It is interesting to note that though Pataliputra

was founded in the land of the Kikatas hundreds of years after the Vedic age, yet its name is associated with that of the Pātali tree. Magadha, which roughly corresponds to the districts of Gaya and Patna did not long remain outside the pale of the orthodox Vedic culture. The Vanaparvan of the Mahabharata (ch. 84) speaks of the Udyanta-Parvata in the neighbourhood of Gaya as the Savitri-Sthana, 'the place of revelation of the Savitri or Gayatri.'

The town of Pataliputra was founded in the fifth century before Christ. On the eve of his *Parinibbana* (C. 478 B. C.) the Buddha visited Pataligrama which was being laid out as a city at that time by Sunidha and Vassakara, two of the Ministers of Ajatasatru. The Lord is said to have remarked, "Here, Ananda, I see with divine and clear vision, surpassing that of men, gods in many thousands, taking up their residence at Pataligrama. As far, O Ananda, as there are noble places of residence, as far as merchants travel, this will become the chief town, this Pataliputra, a centre for the interchange of all kinds of ware. Of Pataliputra, O Ananda, there will be three sources of danger, either from fire, or from water, or from internal dissension" (Digha Nikaya, II, 84—89). The prophecy of the Enlightened One has been remarkably fulfilled by the subsequent history of Patna. The burnt wood discovered at Kumrahar testifies to the destruction of the Mauryan palace by fire; a Chinese account of 756 A.D. informs us that a portion of the city was swallowed up by the river Sone; and the town suffered much from internal dissensions after the death of Asoka, and again on the eve of the Huna invasion.

We learn from the Jaina Parishistaparvan that Udayabhadra, son of Ajatasatru removed the capital of Magadha from Rajgir to Pataliputra. He added to the city a suburb named Kusumapuri on the southern bank of the Ganges in the fourth year of his reign. In ancient literature Pataliputra is, therefore, also referred to as Kusumapura or Puspapura. Pataliputra attained great prosperity under the Nanda kings, who brought the whole of Northern India up to the river Beas under their sway. The Hathigumpha inscription tells us that Kalinga was conquered

by the Nanda kings and a Mysore copper plate inscription of the 12th century records a tradition that the southern part of Bombay and Northern Mysore were also ruled by them from Patna.

In the Maurya period Patna became the capital of an empire which was more extensive than the British Indian empire of the present day, as it extended from the Hindukush to the river Penur in Mysore. Megasthenes, the ambassador of Seleukos Nikator to the court of Chandragupta describes the imperial city in the following words :—" The largest city in India, named Palimbothra is in the land of the Prasians, where is the confluence of the river Erannobaos (Sone) and the Ganges, which is the greatest of rivers. The Erannobaos would be third of the Indian rivers.....On one side where it is longest this city extends 80 stades ( $9\frac{1}{2}$  miles) in length, and that its breadth is fifteen ( $1\frac{3}{4}$  miles), the city has been surrounded with a ditch in breadth 6 plethra (606 feet), and in depth 80 cubits ; and that its wall has 570 towers and 64 gates." The length of modern Patna corresponds roughly to the ancient city though it has shrunk considerably in breadth.

In the reign of Asoka, Pataliputra was not only the centre of political and commercial activities, but also the acknowledged intellectual capital of the whole of the East. It was from this city that the edicts and messages were sent out to the different parts of India, to Central Asia and to the Near East. A great Buddhist Council was convened here by the Emperor with a view to suppressing heresy.

It is usually supposed by the students of History that Patna lost its political importance during the Sunga period. But the newly discovered Buddhist work, entitled Manjusree Mulakalpa tells us, that the Sunga empire extended from the eastern border of India to the gate of Kashmir. Patna witnessed a religious revolution during this period. A Brahmanical reaction began here and many of the Buddhist monasteries were destroyed. But it would be wrong to suppose that the Sungas were persecutors of Buddhism. It was during their regime that the famous Bharhut Stupas were constructed. It appears from the Divyavadana

that the Sunga emperors continued to reside in Pataliputra. Towards the end of the Sunga period, Magadha was conquered by the Satavahana kings, who continued to rule over it for nearly half a century. The Lichchavis of Vaisali then acquired control over this city and ruled it for about a century. The Garga Samhita informs us that Patna then fell in the hands of the Sakas, who did not acknowledge the caste system. The Bharasivas rescued the city from the clutches of the foreigners. We learn from a drama named "Kaumudi Mahotsava" that Magadha was ruled by Sundaravarma of the Kota dynasty just before the foundation of the Gupta empire. He used to live in the Suganga palace in Pataliputra.

Patna again rose to great prominence in the Gupta period. It may be surmised that during the regime of Chandra Gupta I and Samudra Gupta, Patna was the capital of the Gupta empire. But at the beginning of the fifth century A. D. the capital seems to have been shifted from Patna to Ujjain by Chandra Gupta II, who after the conquest of Western India found the latter city to be more centrally situated than the traditional capital of India. The transfer of capital, however, could not diminish the importance of Patna. Fa Hian (405—411) still found that, "The nobles and householders of the country have founded hospitals within the city, to which the poor of all countries, the destitute, the cripples and the diseased may repair. They receive help of all kinds gratuitously, physicians treat them, and order them food and drink, medicine, or decoctions—everything in fact that may contribute to their ease."

The city lay in ruins within two hundred years of the visit of Fa Hian. We do not know for certain the causes which contributed to this catastrophe but the Huna invasion seems to have given an impetus to the rich and enterprising citizens to migrate to Java, Sumatra and Bali. It has been ascertained by calculation that there was a terrible earthquake in Patna near about the year 530 A. D. Hiuen Tsang (630—645 A. D.) writes, "Pataliputra is an old city long deserted; now there only remain the old foundation walls. The monasteries, Hindu temples and Buddhist

Stupas which lie in ruins, may be counted by hundreds and only two or three remain entire."

Pataliputra attained pre-eminence in the intellectual field long before the Maurya period. Rajasekhara in his *Kavya-Mimansa* has recorded the tradition that famous scholars used to be examined here and that Upavarsa, Varsa, Panini, Pingala, Vyadhi, Vararuchi and Patanjali acquired great renown after being examined in Pataliputra. Of these writers Upavarsa is the author of a commentary on Mimansa Sutra ; Varsa was the teacher of Panini ; Pingala is the author of the well-known treatise on Prosody ; Vyadhi is said to have compiled a book containing a lakh of Slokas ; Panini, Patanjali and Vararuchi were famous grammarians. Sthulabhadra, the famous Jaina saint and writer was an inhabitant of Patna. He was the brother of Sakatar, the Minister of the Nanda kings. Umaswativachaka wrote his 'Tattvatarthadhigamasutra' in Pataliputra in the first century A. D. Tradition affirms that Asvaghosa, the famous author of 'Buddha-Charitra', was a citizen of Patna. Patna was famous not only for the cultivation of art and literature but also for the advancement of science. The illustrious astronomer Aryabhatta was born in Patna in 476 A. D. and it was in this very city that he wrote his famous work in 499 A. D., when he was only 23 years of age.

After the Huna invasion the seat of culture seems to have been shifted from Patna to Nalanda. Hiuen Tsang's description of the Nalanda University is well known. Ten thousand students used to reside and study in this great University. They were provided with all their requisites out of endowments made by princes and public men of Bihar. An excellent library was attached to the University, and it was situated in the quarter known as the Dharmaganja. We know from Tibetan accounts that the books used to be preserved in three grand buildings called Ratnasangara, Ratnadadhi and Ratnaranjaka. Ratnadadhi was nine-storied and in it were kept the sacred scripts specially the Prajnaparamita Sutra. Many of the valuable manuscripts were destroyed, and some were removed to Delhi by Muhammad Ibn Bukhtiyar Khilji.

### Mediaeval Patna.

Sher Shah was the founder of modern Patna. Tawarikh-i Daudi says that Sher Shah came to Patna in 1541 on his way back from Bengal. Patna was then a small town which was ruled from Bihar-Sharif, the then capital of the province. Sher Shah stood on the bank of the Ganges and after long deliberation told his attendants that if a fort could be constructed here, the place would become a chief city, because the Ganges could never recede far off from the town. He asked expert masons to prepare an estimate of the cost of the proposed fort and at once granted four lakhs of rupees for the purpose. The fort which was built in this way was found to be exceptionally strong. From this time Behar-Sharif began to decline and Patna became the largest city in the province.

Akbar invaded Bengal in 1574 A. D. and appointed Momin as the Governor of Patna. In this way Patna again became the capital of Bihar. Ralph Fitch visited Patna in 1583 and described the city as a prominent mart where cotton, textiles, sugar, a large quantity of opium, and other articles were sold. But from the description of Patna, written by Abul Fazl, ten years after this, it does not appear that Patna was a big town. He says that there were two forts here—one of mud and the other of brick and that most of the houses had *khapra* roofs. In 1621 Jahangir appointed his son Purviz Governor of Patna. Henceforth none but a prince could become Subedar of Patna. In 1624 Shah Jehan revolted against his father, conquered Bengal and Bihar and compelled Muslis Khan, the representative of Purviz, to surrender the fort of Patna. Patna enjoyed peace and prosperity during the reign of Shah Jehan and Aurangzeb. Shaista Khan effected great improvement in this city during his term of governorship from 1639 to 1649. Tavernier writes that Patna became the most famous mart in Northern India in the middle of the seventeenth century. He found here not only the Armenian and Portuguese merchants, but also traders from Poland. The city, however, had shrunk considerably in size, as according to Tavernier, it was a little more than four miles in length.

Towards the end of the reign of Aurangzeb, Azim-us-Shan, a grandson of the emperor was appointed Subedar of Patna at the beginning of the eighteenth century. He changed the name of the city to Azimabad, after himself, in 1704. He had the ambition of transforming it into a second Delhi, but unfortunately he was swallowed up alive in quick-sand in 1712. Many Omrahs came from Delhi, and settled down in Patna during his rule. The quarter in which the Mughals lived is known as Dewan Mahalla even to-day. The Mughal Secretariat was situated in the Dewan Mahalla. Azim-us-Shan set up many inns and charitable hospitals.

Bihar was joined to Bengal in 1732 under the governorship of Nawab Shuja-ud-din. For one hundred and eighty years (1732—1912) Bihar and Bengal had one common administration. Shuja-ud-din appointed Alivardi Khan as Deputy Governor of Bihar.

The Marhattas invaded Bihar and Bengal for the first time in 1742 A. D. Alivardi asked for help from Emperor Mohammad Shah, who sent Nawab Safdar Jang of Oudh to Patna. Safdar Jang arrogated to himself the powers of the governor, and ordered Alivardi's representative Hedayat Ali Khan to vacate the fort for him. His tyrannical rule made it impossible for the English merchants to send out any commodity from this place. But he went back to Oudh when he heard that the Peshwa Balaji Rao himself was coming to Patna to help Ali Vardi Khan. Balaji came to Bihar with fifty thousand cavalry to drive out Raghuji Bhonsle from the province. Many people fled away from Patna to Hajipur on the other side of the Ganges. Balaji, however, did not come to Patna. The inhabitants of Patna had to suffer another calamity in 1748, when eighty thousand Afghans of Darbhanga made a raid on this city, and perpetrated horrible atrocities on the people.

The English established a factory in Patna on a permanent footing in 1657. The Dutch must have settled here a few years earlier because in a letter of 1650 the English officers are advised

to purchase sugar in the same way as was done by the Dutch. In 1664 the illustrious Job Charnok was appointed the Factor of Patna. He married a Hindu lady, who is said to have been thrown in the funeral pyre of her deceased husband. Hamilton in his "New Account of the East Indies" has recorded that Charnok adopted the religion of his wife. The French settled down here some time between 1720 and 1725.

Clive came to Patna along with Mir Jafar after the battle of Plassey, and appointed Miran the nominal Governor of Patna, but the administration was really carried on by Raja Ramanarayan. The Governors of Allahabad and Oudh put forward Shahzada Ali Gauhar as the ruler of Bengal, Bihar and Orissa. Ali Gauhar assumed the title of Shah Alam in January 1760 and besieged Patna. Captain Knox marched to Patna from Murshidabad and forced Shah Alam to flee to Tekari on the 23rd April, 1760. Patna witnessed the terrible massacre of the British residents by order of Mir Kasim on the 5th October, 1763. Mir Kasim advanced towards Patna in the company of Nawab Shuja-ud-Dola in April, 1764, and set fire to the suburbs of Patna. He was defeated on the 3rd May, 1764, at the battle of Patna, but hovered round the city till the end of the month.

The city of Patna began to extend towards the west in the 18th century. The factory of the East India Company was shifted to Company Bagh at Bankipore at the end of the century. The cantonment at Dinapore, six miles to the west of Bankipore, was first set up in 1767 A. D.

Patna was as much a centre of Islamic culture in the Mughal period, as it had been pre-eminent in Hindu culture in the ancient times. The famous Persian poet, Sheikh Ali Hazin, came down to Patna at the request of his poetic disciple, Raja Ramanarayan, and lived here for a pretty long time. Ghulam Hossain, the illustrious author of *Seir-ul-Motaakharin*, was an inhabitant of Patna. Tradition has it that Raja Ram Mohan Roy had his early training in this city. As late as 1812, Francis Buchanan found here a large number of learned Maulavis, who were proficient



not only in Persian literature and Arabic Science but also well-versed in European Philosophy. It is interesting to note that according to his calculation there were three lakh and twelve thousand inhabitants in Patna in 1811 A. D.

### Modern Patna.

The agitation for the separation of Bihar from Bengal began in right earnest in 1894 with the establishment of an English weekly, at Patna, called the 'Bihar Times.' After a continuous struggle for eighteen long years Patna was elevated again to the status of the metropolis of a major province in British India. During the last twenty-eight years the Patna University, the Prince of Wales' Medical College and Hospital, the Bihar College of Engineering and a large number of other educational institutions have been established in Patna. Dr. Sachchidananda Sinha, one of the makers of modern Bihar, has summarised the progress of the city during this period in a recent article in the following words: "There has been an appreciable improvement not only in its population, but also in the amenities of life. Its population has substantially increased, and is now nearly two hundred thousand. A new civil station has sprung up with many public buildings, and numerous fine private residences and miles of excellent tarred roads, lined by avenues of umbrageous trees, have been constructed in it. The Government House, the Secretariat, the Provincial Museum, the Legislative Block, the High Court, the Senate Hall of the Patna University, and various other educational buildings, the Post and Telegraph Offices, and the premises of several other public institutions are notable for their distinctive style of architecture.....The intellectual and political life of new Patna is served by the Patna University Library, the Srimati Radhika Sinha Institute and Library, the Bihar and Orissa Research Society, the Bihar Young Men's Institute, various College societies, and by two English dailies, *The Searchlight* (1918) and the *Indian Nation* (1931), besides some English, Hindi, and Urdu weeklies."

## LIBRARIES IN PATNA.

(1) *The Khuda Bakhsh Library* :—

The name given to it by its Founder in the Trust Deed is *The Patna Oriental Public Library*. It contains one of the finest collections of Moslem literature in the world. Its founder, Khan Bahadur Khuda Bakhsh, was the Government Pleader in Patna and was later elevated to the bench at Hyderabad. His father, Mohammad Bakhsh, left him a collection of fourteen hundred manuscripts, and to this he added more than five thousand volumes, besides 14,000 rare printed books in English, Arabic, and Persian. "Khuda Bakhsh did not hesitate to entice away from a neighbouring prince one of the most accomplished of his book-collectors," writes Mr. V. C. Scott O'Connor in his book entitled "An Eastern Library," and to employ yet another emissary in the cause upon which his heart was set, an Arab, who, for eighteen years went about ransacking the libraries of Cairo, of Damascus, of Beirut, of Arabia, of Egypt, and of Persia, bringing back every now and then to his master, like a good retriever, the winged manuscripts as they fell into his grasp." The most notable specimens of oriental caligraphy are to be found in the splendidly illuminated copies of the Qoran, copies of *Haftband-i-Kashi* (dated A. H. 1200), Jami's *Yousuf Zalikha*, and the *Dewan* of Mirza Kamran (which bears the autographs of the Emperors Jahangir and Shah Jahan). The Library possesses rare historical works like Ibn Hazm's *Jamharat-un-Nasab*; Zahabi's *Duwal-ul-Islamiyya*, *Kitab-ut-Tawarikh* of Abu Ishaq Ibrahim Abi-d-Dam and Abu Ali al-Farisi's *Kitabul Hujjah*. The collection of *Diwans* in this library is unrivalled in India, and excelled by none in Europe. It contains the very copy of *Shah Nama* which Ali Mardan Khan, Governor of Kabul and Kashmir, presented to Emperor Shah Jahan. There is a copy of *Silsilat-ud-Dahab* and the minor lyrical poems of Jami which includes those poems which Jami dedicated to Sultan Abu Said. The library can take legitimate pride in the possession of the work of Zahravi on surgery (584 A.H.) which contains very-carefully drawn pictures of the surgical instruments. It is

impossible to give even a rough idea of the treasures of the library within such a short compass. We can only request the readers to pay a visit to this world-famous institution. It will delight even those who have no knowledge of Arabic, Persian and Urdu languages, because there are many old rare and beautiful pictures in it.

The copy of *Tarikh-i-Khandan-i-Timuriah* contains no less than 133 illuminated folio pages, painted by more than thirty famous painters of Akbar's time. Each picture is enamelled in gold, exquisite with colour and crowded with incidents. Most of them are pictures of sieges, battles and spear thrusts. The Mughal art of the seventeenth century is illustrated by the paintings contained in the copy of *Padshahnamah*.

(2) *The Srimati Radhika Sinha Institute Library* :—

The Library was founded by Dr. Sachchidananda Sinha in memory of his wife, Srimati Radhika Devi, and it was opened by His Excellency Sir Henry Wheeler, the then Governor of Bihar and Orissa, in February, 1924. The handsome and commodious building and its furnishing cost over one lac of rupees, the books in the library have been assessed at more than 2 lacs of rupees, and Dr. Sinha had made an endowment of half a lac of rupees, from the income of which the staff is maintained, and the establishment kept at a high level of efficiency. Lately the Bihar Government has made to it an annual grant of Rs. 8,000. The institution was referred to as a "splendid library of general literature", by Sir Courtney Terrell, in his Patna University Convocation address in 1932. The Library has got attached to it a reading room, a research room, and newspaper room, which are well-provided with many of the well-known British and Indian periodicals and journals. In the newspaper room are preserved bound volumes of some of the leading Indian newspapers and periodicals. The reference section of the Library is important, as it is stocked with the latest editions of encyclopaedia, dictionaries, gazetteers, and other standard books of reference, dealing with various branches of human knowledge. Having been collected by Dr. Sinha himself, in the course of more than thirty

years, before it was presented to the public, the collection is in one sense "a one man's library." But during the last sixteen years a large number of books have been added in all sections, and the collection is now fairly up-to-date as a general library, for cultural purposes. The number of books in the Library, including the reference and the official publications sections, is nearly 20,000. The Librarian is Mr. Indradeo Narayan Sinha, D-L. Sc. (Cal.).

(3) *The Patna University Library* :—

The Library consists of three sections, viz., (a) the General Library, which contains 17,731 volumes (b) the Bayley Memorial Collection, having 9,064 volumes and (c) the Banaili Economics Library with 521 books on Economics. The annual grant for the General Library is Rs. 6,000 a year. The Bayley Memorial Collection was founded to perpetuate the memory of Sir Charles Bayley, the first Lieutenant-Governor of the province of Bihar and Orissa. Subscriptions to the extent of Rs. 48,550 were promised, but little or no progress was made till January 1920. In order to put the matter on a stable basis, the Provincial Government suggested in 1923 that the trustees should collect the money, and make it over to the Patna University, for the foundation of a section of its Library, to be known as the Bayley Memorial Collection. This section was to remain open to the public for the purpose of study. The Government sanctioned Rs. 50,000 in September 1923 and in March 1924 the University received a sum of Rs. 46,049-9-0 from the Secretary of the Bayley Memorial Trust.

The Maharajadhiraja of Darbhanga, Maharaja Bahadur of Hathwa, the Maharani Sahiba of Bettiah, contributed Rs. 10,000 each, the Maharaja Bahadur of Gidhour and the Raja Bahadur of Amawan contributed Rs. 4,000 each, Raja Bahadur of Banaili contributed Rs. 20,000, Sir Edward Gait and Raja Bahadur Jyoti Prasad Singh Deo of Panchet contributed Rs. 1,000 each. Books began to be purchased for this collection from 1931. A sum of Rs. 4,252-8-0 only is the annual income from this fund at present. Out of this Rs. 1,800 is paid as salary to one Assistant and three

menials and the balance of Rs. 2,452-8-0 is available every year for purchase of books. The University accepted a contribution of Rs. 5,000 from the Banaili Raj in March 1920 for the purchase of books for the Economics sections of the University Library. The University Library is managed by two statutory bodies, the Library General Committee and the Library Executive Committee. The Assistant Registrar is in charge of the Library of the University.

(4) *The Bihar and Orissa Research Society Library :—*

The Research Society, established in 1915, has a pretty large building, containing valuable manuscripts and printed books. The Library receives an annual grant of Rs. 1,000 from Government. The Society began to make systematic search for Sanskrit manuscripts in Tirhut and Orissa from 1920, and the fruits of this labour have been garnered in the two volumes of Descriptive Catalogue of Manuscripts in Mithila. Besides the volumes mentioned above, there are about 700 bundles of Tibetan manuscripts including Kanjur and other books.

(5) *The Patna College Library :—*

The Patna High School, established in 1835, was raised to the standard of a College in 1863. The splendid library of the College is located in a building, which was a Dutch Factory of the 17th century. The Library has developed steadily in the present century as the following table will show :—

Year.		Number of Volumes in Library.		
1906 ...	...	...	...	5,125
1918 ...	...	...	...	11,609
1924 ...	...	...	...	16,042
1938 ...	...	...	...	26,969

It receives an annual grant of Rs. 5,500 from the Government. There are card indices of subjects and authors. In 1938-39 the College teachers took out 4,486 volumes and the students 29,236 volumes.

(6) *The Science College Library :—*

The Science College, established in 1927, has a good library, which contains 8,029 volumes, mainly on scientific subjects. A large number of scientific books and journals of the Patna University Library are also on permanent loan to the Science College Library.

(7) *The Bihar National College Library :—*

The College, established in 1889, has in its library 7,557 volumes of books and 21,405 volumes of magazines and journals. There is a large number of valuable Pali books on Buddhism in this library.

(8) *The Engineering College Library :—*

The Library contains 2,406 volumes on technical subjects. The Government grants Rs. 1,000 for the purchase of books and periodicals.

(9) *The Medical College Library :—*

The College Library started with 1,007 volumes in 1925. There are 1,944 volumes at present. The annual grant for the Library is Rs. 2,500.

(10) *The Bihar Young Men's Institute Library :—*

The library contains nearly 6,000 volumes on literature, philosophy and religion. The disciples of Shree Rupakala Bhagwan handed over their collection of religious books to the Institute. Dr. Sachchidananda Sinha, and the late Mr. E. A. Horne contributed many valuable books to the Library.

(11) *The Bihar Hitaishi Library :—*

It was founded in 1883 by the late Rai Saheb Narayan Prasad. It is located in a fine building of its own at Mangal Talab in Patna City. It has got 7,000 volumes of books. It is managed by the public. The Patna City Municipality gives an annual grant of Rs. 300 to the Library ; and another Rs. 300 for the travelling library for women. The Library has got six sections, namely, Development, Debate, Ladies', Children's, Music and Health

sections. 42 Literacy centres are working under the auspices of the Ladies' section. The Secretary of this progressive library is Rai Mathura Prasad.

(12) *The Maheshwar Public Library :—*

It was started in 1928 by Seth Prushottam Prasad Sinha, in memory of his late father, Seth Maheshwar Prasad Sinha, and was thrown open to the public. For the first time in the history of Bihar this library ventured to inaugurate a circulating and travelling library for the benefit of ladies, and now it has more than three hundred lady members on the roll. It contains more than 7,600 volumes. In its Reading Room there are more than 120 periodicals, journals and magazines.

Mr. P. P. Sinha is the Secretary of the library.

(13) *Suhrid Parisad and Hemachandra Library :—*

It is a Bengali Library, containing nearly 6,000 volumes. It contains the first editions of many rare Bengali books.

(14) *The Navavidhana Brahma Samaj Library :—*

A small library has been established in 1935 by the Brahma community of the locality. It aims at providing facilities for the study of comparative religions.

(15) *The Manuk Collection.*

Mr. P. C. Manuk, Bar-at-Law, Patna, has collected during the last forty years a representative collection of Indian paintings of the Mughal and allied schools. The late Dr. K. P. Jayaswal described it as "one of the finest, if not the finest" in the world. Contemporary portraits of Raja Man Singh, Raja Todar Mal, Dara Shikoh and Zeb-un-Nisa, besides those of many other Mughal grandees are to be seen here. A long series of pictures illustrate the embodiments of the moods and airs (*Rag* and *Ragini*) of Hindu Music.

(16) *Jalan Collection :—*

Rai Bahadur Radha Krishna Jalan, of Patna City, has also made a fine collection of rare books and pictures of medieval

times. A visit to his residence which is located in the old fort of Patna will amply repay the trouble.

(17) *Mass Literacy Libraries :—*

Under the inspiration of the late Education Minister, the Hon'ble Dr. Syed Mahmud, Professor B. B. Mukherji, the energetic Secretary of the Provincial Mass Literacy Committee has organised 4,000 libraries in the villages of Bihar and one such is located in the T. K. Ghosh's Academy at Bankipore. The Library consists of 100 Hindusthani and 27 Bengali books on History, Biography, Civics, Rural Economics, Literature etc., and each of them consists of about 16 pages.

(18) *Library of the Department of Industries, Bihar, established in 1920. :—*

It is situated in the Secretariat room No. 110. It contains 1,950 books and 2,000 bulletins and reports on Labour, Industry, Trade, Handicrafts, Fishery and other allied subjects.

(19) *Vedic Hindi Library, Aryakumar Bhawan, Arya Samaj Mandir, Bankipur, established in 1925 :—*

It contains 2,000 volumes on religion.

(20) *Library of the Bihar Legislature, established in 1912 :—*

The Library is primarily intended for the use of the members of the Bihar Legislature, but admission is also extended by courtesy in a few cases to other persons. It is located on the ground-floor of the Administration Block of the Assembly Buildings. It contains fifteen thousand books.

(21) *Al-Islah Library, at Desna, Patna, established in 1900 :—*

It is a well-equipped village library with 5,000 Urdu and 1000 English books. It also possesses 150 valuable manuscripts.

### SITES IN PATNA.

(1) *Kumrahar :—*The palace of Chandragupta Maurya was in all probability situated here. Dr. Waddell excavated the site



in 1895-96 and discovered many terracotta figures, wooden pillars engraved stones etc. Dr. Spooner again excavated it in 1912 and found the remains of many highly polished stone pillars. It is believed by scholars that there was a big hall here and it rested on 225 pillars arranged in 15 rows. To the south of the hall a wooden platform has been discovered at a depth of 15 feet under the ground.

(2) *Bulandbagh* :—Situated at a distance of one furlong to the North-West of Kumrahar. A chariot wheel of four feet diameter, swords, clay seals, gold ornaments and many terracotta figures have been found here as the result of excavation in 1916.

(3) *The Agam Kuan* :—Asoka, before his conversion, is said to have made it the *Naraka*, into which prisoners were thrown. Dr. Kern imagines that Asoka's kitchen for cooking meat was situated here. People believe the water of the well to have curative value in eye and skin diseases.

(4) *Maharaj Khanda* :—A few steps to the north of the Agam Kuan. Traces of the great tower of the wooden palisade which surrounded the ancient city have been found here.

(5) *Bhiknapahari* :—It is believed to have been the site of Prince Mahendra's hermitage. Asoka persuaded the Prince to come down to Pataliputra from Rajgir, where he had been living on the Gridhrakut hill. He built an artificial hill in imitation of the Gridhrakut. It was known as Bhikshukapahari or Bhikhupahari as a large number of Bhikshukas made it their abode.

(6) *The Stone Mosque* :—This is the only mosque built of stone in Patna. It was built in 1626 by Prince Purwiz, son of Emperor Jahangir. The inscription of the mosque shows that the materials belonged to a temple at Manjhawli.

(7) *Gulzarbagh Press and Cottage Industries Institute* :—The press is housed in the oldest of all the buildings made by Europeans in Patna. At first it belonged to the Dutch. Warren Hastings occupied it from them in 1781, when Holland joined France in the American War of Independence. It was returned to the Dutch

in 1784 and was re-occupied in 1824. The products of the Cottage Industries Institute have acquired well-deserved reputation in European markets.

(8) *The Ollendex-ka-poshta* :—It was the Dutch Factory. The Beguma-ki Haveli was utilised in the latter half of the 18th century as a prison-house for those who failed to pay revenue in time.

(9) *The Cemetery* :—A high minar has been erected on a well into which the dead bodies of about 200 Europeans had been thrown by Don Samuroo or Walter Reinhard, who was an employee of Mir Kasim.

(10) *Maharaja Ghat* :—A place on the river bank where Raja Ram Narayan and his brother Raja Durga Narayan used to live. They were Deputy Governors of Patna during the last days of the Nawabs of Bengal.

(11) *Padri Haveli* :—It contains the Catholic Church, the foundation-stone of which was laid down by Revetor Father Joseph in 1772, and which was completed in 1779. A Venetian architect named Tiretto constructed it. The huge church-bell was contributed by Bahadur Shah, son of Raja Prethvinarayan of Nepal.

(12) *The Madrasa Mosque* :—Built by Shuab Khan in 1629. There were 140 rooms surrounding the mosque; and in these rooms 135 students and 5 learned Maulavies used to reside.

(13) *Chauk Thana* :—Here stood the famous building called Chehal Satoon or the forty-pillared hall in which Farrukseyar and Shah-Jada Ali Gauhar were proclaimed kings and from this place they proceeded to Delhi to ascend the throne. It was in this place that Nawab Hayabat Jung, father of Serajuddaula was murdered. His wife, Chimni Begum lies buried under a small mausoleum in Mahalla Arfabad whilst he himself was buried in Mahalla Begumpure in a beautiful and imposing mausoleum inside a garden. The Mahalla Begumpure is named after Chimni Begum.

(14) *Hara Mandir* :—Guru Gobinda Singh was born here in 1664 A.D. The present temple was built by Ranjit Singh. A copy of the Grantha Sahib bearing the signature of the Guru, his wooden shoes and sword are shown to visitors.

(15) *Patan Devi* :—There are two Patan Devis, the smaller one, according to Buchanan, was installed by Mansingh, when he was the Governor of Bihar.

(16) *The Mangal Talao* :—It is believed to be one of the seven old lakes of Pataliputra. The present tank was excavated by Mr. Manglane, the then District Magistrate in 1875 A.D.

On the way back from Patna City visitors may see the Engineering College, Science College, Patna College, the Khuda Baksh Library, the Bihar Young Men's Institute, the Medical College, the Bihar National College, the Manuk Collection, the Golghara (egg-shaped building 96 ft. high, constructed by John Garsteuin in 1786), the Sinha Library, the Museum, the High Court, the Secretariat, and the Hardinge Park.

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## ANNEXURE.

Besides the Libraries described above, the following is the list of some other important Libraries of Bihar.

1. Bihar Hindi Sahitya Sammelan Library, P. O. Kadamkuan, Patna.
2. The Gait Public Library, Gardanibagh, Patna.
3. Civil Court Bar Library, Bankipore, Patna.
4. The Secretariat Library, Patna.
5. Advocates' Library, Patna High Court, Patna.
6. Theosophical Library, Purbahore, Bankipore, Patna.
7. Sri Manoranjan Pustakalaya, P. O. Gulzarbagh, Patna.
8. Sri Annapurna Pustakalaya, P. O. Hilsa, Patna.
9. Nagri Pracharini Sabha, Arrah.
10. Shri Krishna Pustakalaya, Dehri, P. O. Bhabhua.
11. Jain Library, Arrah.
12. Sri Jain Sidhanta Bhawan Pustakalaya, Arrah.
13. Boy's Hindi Library, P. O. Surajpura, Shahabad.
14. Student's Library, Entawa, P. O. Koth.
15. Rohtas Club, P. O. Dehri Sugar Mills.
16. Sone Club, P. O. Dehri (Shahabad).
17. Sri Mannu Lal Pustakalaya, Gaya.
18. Gaya Public Library, Gaya.
19. Muslim Club, Gaya.
20. V. N. Mehta Library, Sultanganj, Bhagalpur.
21. Khosla Hindi Library, Bhagalpur.
22. Muslim Institute, Tatarpur, Bhagalpur.
23. Sri Marwari Navyuwak Samity, Jamalpur, Monghyr.
24. Lee Town Hall Library, Begusarai, Monghyr.
25. Chitranjan Pustakalaya, Lakhisarai, Monghyr.
26. Sri Mahabir Pustakalaya, Purainiganj, Monghyr.
27. Jhajha Railway Pustakalaya, Jhajha.
28. Dinapur Indian Institute Library, Khagaul P. O.
29. Indian Railway Institute Library, Jamalpur.
30. Chaudhry Pustakalaya, C/o Yati Ram Ray, Purnea.
31. Sri Krishna Pustakalaya, Hajipur, (Muzaffarpur).

32. Sri Nauyuwak Society, Muzafferpur.
  33. The Town Hall Library, Muzafferpur.
  34. Sri Sarda Sadan Pustakalaya, P. O. Lalgunj (Muzafferpur).
  35. The National Pustakalaya, P. O. Karnaha (Muzafferpur).
  36. Sri Pratap Pustakalaya Gobindpur, Debi Sandha,  
(Muzafferpur).
  37. Hindi Sahitya Sammelan Pustakalaya, P. O. Belsand  
(Muzafferpur).
  38. Sri Nandan Memorial Institute, Chapra, Saran.
  39. Mazharul Huq Memorial Library, Chapra.
  40. Sri Rajendra Pustakalaya, P. O. Nikhati Kalan, Saran.
  41. Young Friends Library, Pandaul, Darbhanga.
  42. Lakshmishwar Public Library, Darbhanga.
  43. Modern Library, P. O. Laheriasarai, Darbhanga.
  44. Darbhanga Library, Darbhanga.
  45. Indian Club Library. Samastipur, Darbhanga.
  46. Hazaribagh Public Library, Hazaribagh.
  47. Sri Santo Lal Library, Ranchi.
  48. Itki Sanitorium Library, Itki, Ranchi.
  49. Sri Sarvajanic Library, Deoghar.
  50. Sri Jawahar Pustakalaya, P. O. Gangpur, Darbhanga.
  51. Premlata Hindi Pustakalaya, P. O. Chaita, Darbhanga.
  52. Ram Mohan Library, Chaibasa.
  53. Hathwa Raj Library, Hathwa, Saran.
  54. Saraswati Bhawan Library, Hathwa.
  55. Bettiah Raj Library, Bettiah.
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